FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 JANUARY 1984

Lebanon

Syria's view is that the "Phalangist authority's behavior" is complicating the situation in an attempt to avoid the "radical solutions" adopted at the Geneva conference "and which must continue through this conference," *TISHRIN* declared in an editorial reported by Damascus radio. Charging that the Lebanese Government intends to "shirk" its agreements with the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement signed at the National Dialogue Conference, the paper said President Amin al-Jumayyil is attempting to implement the May 1983 agreement with Israel under "propitious" regional circumstances and with U.S. military support.

Coinciding with Syria's renewed criticism of the Al-Jumayyil regime, Radio Monte Carlo confirmed that Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt has called for Al-Jumayyil's resignation. In a written statement cited by the radio, Junblatt said the PSP will not participate with Al-Jumayyil in any government, under any formula. The PSP's Voice of Truth radio also broadcast an appeal by Junblatt to Druze fighters to confront the "new plot" and denounced the security plan as an attempt to "outflank, besiege, and expel" the PSP forces.

Commenting on Junblatt's hostility toward the security plan, a Western diplomatic source in Damascus told Radio Monte Carlo that the Druze leader retracted his agreement with the plan after being "surprised" by the Lebanese Government's decision to withhold promotions for Druze officers in Hammanah garrison.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraq has received SS-12 missiles mounted on mobile platforms from the Soviet Union, according to diplomatic sources in Baghdad cited by WAKH. The missiles can reach targets deep inside Iran including Khark Island, which will be a prime target if Iraq carries out its threat to use "sophisticated" weapons to counter any new Iranian offensive, the sources said. Meanwhile, the Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine urged Greek shipowners to keep their ships away from military operations zones in the Gulf, Athens radio reported.

Iran

The Supreme Judicial Council, in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio, announced its acceptance of Revolution Prosecutor General Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi's resignation and said it has notified the state prosecutor general to arrange the "transfer and reorganization" of the revolution prosecutor general's office.

Israel

In preliminary talks with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Jerusalem on 24 January, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed Israel's "firm opposition" to the sale of arms to Saudi Arabia, warning the German leader that Saudi Arabia "is not the moderate state that people in Europe believe it is." Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir asserted that any arms supplied to Saudi Arabia will be used against Israel "directly or indirectly."

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee will hold a series of meetings in Tunis shortly to make preliminary arrangements for Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan, which will begin on 28 January, Tunis radio reported citing a Palestinian source. The meetings will start after 'Arafat returns from his current visit to Senegal, the source disclosed.

Inter-Arab Affairs

The Arab Parliamentary Union currently meeting in San'a' will include in its deliberations a "controversial" Sudanese proposal to reinstate Egypt in the union, KUNA reported. In another development, an Iraqi delegation led by First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan arrived in Amman on 25 January for talks with King Husayn and other ranking officials, Amman radio reported.

Maghreb Affairs

Tunisian Opposition Statement — The Movement of Social Democrats has called on President Habib Bourguiba to "abandon" the chairmanship of the ruling party and to "separate the organs of the state from the structure of the party," KUNA reported. The movement's statement also called for dissolution of the National Assembly, "free elections as soon as possible with the participation of all active forces," the lifting of the state of emergency, the release of all political prisoners, and the return of exiled nationalists. The movement rejected the committee established by Bourguiba to investigate the causes for the recent riots, calling instead for a national committee "representing all political and social trends," KUNA added.

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Syrian-'Arafat Loyalists ICO Meeting Reported

LD251126 Kuwait KUNA in English 1030 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, Jan 25 (KUNA) — A high ranking diplomatic source told KUNA Tuesday here the strained Syrian-Palestinian relations are set to improve after a meeting last week between the Syrian deputy premier and foreign minister and loyalists to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during the Casablanca Islamic summit. A Palestinian source here affirmed to KUNA that 'Abd al-Halim Kaddam had met with some members of the Palestinian delegation to the Islamic summit and discussed the crisis in Syrian-Palestinian ties. The diplomatic source said Morocco and a number of Arab gulf states played a leading role in arranging the meeting, described as positive.

Unconfirmed press reports said that Khaddam met with 'Arafat but a Palestinian source denied the story saying that the two men only exchanged greetings in the meetings hall. The sources stressed that the Gulf states along with Algeria are determined to continue their efforts aimed at containing the Syrian-Palestinian differences. Relations between Syria and Yasir 'Arafat were strained after the latter accused Damascus of supporting Palestinian rebels opposed to his leadership but the Syrian Government denied the charge.

'Arafat Planning To Visit Jordan 28 Jan

LD250311 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] TAP, citing a Palestinian source in Tunis, reported that the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee will hold a series of meetings in Tunis which are expected to commence when the leader Yasir 'Arafat returns from Dakar within the next 48 hours. The source said that the meeting will focus on laying down the preliminary arrangements for the visit Yasir 'Arafat intends to pay to Jordan and laying down a framework for the Jordanian-Palestinian talks on the Palestinian issue and making joint efforts to reach a single formulation for political and diplomatic moves on the Arab and international arena.

'Arafat's visit to Jordan will take place on 28 January and the Jordanian officials have expressed their full readiness to coordinate with the PLO in the next stage, within the commitment to the resolutions of the Arab summit conference in Rabat which stressed that the PLO was the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and on the basis of respecting the Palestinian national independent decisionmaking.

Talks Date Said Being Negotiated

JN241912 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1725 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee will meet in Tunis to discuss Yasir 'Arafat's coming visit to Amman. Nabil Haydar reports further: An authoritative Palestinian source has stated that three PLO Executive Committee members residing in Amman have left for Tunis after being urgently summoned. The three members are Hamid Abu Sittah, Hanna Nasir, and 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad. The source added that the committee will hold a meeting in Tunis following Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Senegal. We remind you that Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] returned to Tunis today to brief members of the Fatah Central Committee on his talks in Amman with King Husayn and Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat.

In another development, a Jordanian Government official, who preferred that his name not be disclosed, said that Jordan and the PLO have begun negotiations about the date of coming talks between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat to adopt a joint stand on the Middle East crisis. When a REUTER correspondent asked the Jordanian official about Husni Mubarak's possible visit to Jordan and Iraq, the Jordanian official answered: I have no information about this issue, but this does not surprise me. A diplomatic source in Amman said that Jordan has officially invited the Egyptian president to visit Amman.

PLO, BCP Officials Hold Talks in Tunis

LD241734 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Political Department of the PLO, and Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, met today in the PLO Political Department in Tunis with (Samarov), theofficial in charge of Arab affairs in the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party. Palestinian-Bulgarian relations and Palestinian action in the international arena were discussed. It is expected that three members of the PLO Executive Committee — Ahmad Abu Sittah, Hanna Nasir and 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad — will arrive in Tunis from Amman. A Palestinian source explained that the Executive Committee will meet in Tunis immediately after the visit by 'Arafat to Senegal.

Dissidents Said Preparing Attack on PLF Bases

JN241734 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The latest reports from Damascus dealing with the coupist move of 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim against the Palestine Liberation Front [PLF] indicate that 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim is now gathering a number of military elements from the traitor dissident groups and the Syrian regime's agents in order to attack and control two PLF military bases in Al-Biqa' valley. These reports added that agents of the Syrian intelligence service had sent a cable to Abu 'Adawi, who was recently expelled from the Palestinian Military Council after he participated in northern Lebanon's battles against our Palestinian people, asking him to act and coordinate with 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim to back the latter's attack on the PLF military bases in the Al-Biqa' valley. Abu 'Adawi answered this cable by saying that the weather is not suitable for such an attack.

Other information coming from Damascus is that the 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim group recently received a shipment of arms from the Libyan regime. The shipment arrived in Damascus a few days ago and is meant to help Ghanim in launching his military attack on the PLF bases.

'Arafat Said To Visit India; Date Open

JN241104 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1004 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] New Delhi, 24 Jan (INA) — The INA New Delhi correspondent has learned that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will pay a visit to India, the date of which is not yet fixed. Citing an Indian official, the correspondent said that during the visit 'Arafat will hold talks with Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi on the Palestinian problem and the west Asian situation.

Fatah Revolutionary Council Member Joins Uprising

JN231937 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Yahya 'Awad, Fatah Revolutionary Council member, has announced that he is is joining the revolutionary uprising in Fatah. At a press conference he held in Damascus this evening which was attended by representatives of Arab and foreign news agencies in Damascus 'Awad said: "I joined the uprising movement out of my own complete conviction. I place myself as a soldier at the service of this uprising, which has translated into action and practically implemented the Palestinian revolution's and Palestinian people's rejection of the capitulatory settlement designs and the defeatist political steps taken by the 'Arafat clique in the Fatah leadership.

LE MONDE Views PLO Search for New Strategy

PM231924 Paris LE MONDE in French 20 Jan 84 p 5

[Part II of Eric Rouleau dispatch: "The PLO in Search of a New Strategy: The French 'Locomotive'"]

[Text] Tunis — "It would be tragic if the PLO left-wingers were to continue to dictate to us," Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, who acts as information "minister," murmured. He is one of those who hope that the crisis sparked off by the 'Arafat-Mubarak meeting will lead to a radical reform of the PLO. He makes no secret of the fact that he would be relieved by the possible expulsion of the three pro-Syrian organizations "which shed Palestinian blood" in Tripoli. As for the other dissident groups, particularly Dr George Habash's PFLP and Mr Nayif Hawatimah's DFLP, he hopes that the "dictatorship" they exercise over the fedayeen "federation" will be ended. To this end he proposes that the decisions of the leadership bodies should henceforth be taken by a majority of the votes and not according to the consensus rule which gives the minority the right to vote.

A Series of Resolutions

"These so-called left-wing organizations," he continued, "are paralyzing us by their sectarianism and their abstract analyses. They are completely out of touch with reality. Their leaders are only capable of talking about the past or the distant future. We do not need historians or prophets but practical politicians capable of solving our people's immediate problems."

Even when they share Khalid al-Hasan's views, most members of the Fatah Central Committee are determined to prevent the break-up of the PLO and at the same time to reform it. They would readily sacrifice the Palestinian movement's unity as soon as they were certain that a political settlement was in sight.

"Meanwhile," Abu Iyad [Salah Khallaf], one of Fatah's "historic leaders," stated, "every effort ought to be made to accomodate the Palestinian left. I mean the reasonable left. Whether you like it or not, the PFLP, DFLP, and Communist Party represent a considerable section of opinion and have supporters within Fatah itself. The day the international community offers us a state on the West Bank and in Gaza we will form a government in exile to negotiate. Those who opposed our decision could then leave us to form an opposition front. That would be both a justified and democratic approach...."

It was after nine plenary meetings — more than 100 hours of deliberations — held since new year's eve that the Fatah Central Committee adopted a series of resolutions, which were not published, taking account of a jointly defined dual objective: the preservation of the PLO's unity on the basis of a "dynamic" strategy desired by the Fatah "realists" but acceptable to the "reasonable left." The decisions — which will be submitted to the various components of the PLO, excluding the groupings backed by Syria and Libya, for their views — could be summed up as follows: Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo is a "personal initiative" incompatible with the policy of Fatah, the PLO, and the Arab League toward Egypt. Nonetheless, every effort should be made to bring the latter back into the Arab family.

The "dialogue" with Egypt and Jordan will henceforth be pursued under the supervision of two separate ad hoc committees, which will ensure that the search for a negotiated settlement does not stray into the sphere of Camp David or the Reagan plan.

The ultimate objective of any exchange, negotiations, or tactical agreement is still the creation of a sovereign Palestinian state on the West Bank and in Gaza, which would form a confederation — not a federation — with Jordan. The means of achieving such a result would be the Fes plan — the expression of the Arab-Palestinian consensus drawn up in September 1982.

The Fes plan would become more effective if it was combined with the draft settlement outlined by the Franco-Egyptian draft resolution submitted to the Security Council in July 1982. In the eyes of the Fatah leadership, that document decodes the Fes resolutions and explicitly defines what the latter implicitly suggested as the basis of a settlement: "recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights including their right to self-determination with all that that implies"; "the mutual and simultaneous recognition of the parties concerned"; and, finally, the opening of negotiations in which the PLO "would be included."

"In other words," Abu Iyad explained, "we think that if the Fes plan can be compared with a stationary train — because it is regarded as inadequate by the Western powers — it ought to be equipped with a French locomotive capable of making it move along the track leading to peace."

Prospects for 1985

The Fatah leaders do not underestimate the obstacles on the path they have drawn. They know they can expect nothing from the United States — whose attitude toward the conflict is decisive — before the presidential election at the end of this year. They also realize that a possible French approach would only have influence if it were supported by all the EC members. Their strategy, they explain, is thus designed to achieve practical results in 1985 or even in 1986. Between now and then, they hope, things will develop in Europe, in the United States, and in Israel. In particular they are counting on the accession to power in Jerusalem of a government which, faced with the sterility and harmful effects of the Likud's intransigent policy, would eventually accept the compromise proposed to them by the PLO: the coexistence of two states in Palestine — one Israeli and the other Palestinian — with the latter organically linked with King Husayn's Jordan.

Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee and Fatah representative in Amman, maintains that the latter already supports the "French solution." The Hashemite king and the Egyptian head of state are convinced according to him, that the Reagan plan, despite its "positive aspects," is not practicable. This is particularly so since the "strategic alliance" recently concluded between Washington and Jerusalem, and the U.S. Government's tacit approval of Jewish colonization of the occupied territories, have seriously undermined the White House incumbent's credibility. King Husayn and President Mubarak, he concluded, are thus prepared to coordinate their efforts with President Mitterrand to pave the way for a diplomatic solution.

The next stages in the process have already been planned: Fatah will try to persuade the leaders of the other organizations — during a meeting due to take place before mid-February — to join the new strategy. Once their agreement has been secured, the PNC (the resistance's parliament) would be asked to adopt the terms of the Franco-Egyptian settlement plan, provided of course, that the latter is meanwhile approved either by the EC, or, better still, by the UN Security Council. Indeed, most Palestinian leaders intend to secure the support of the USSR, which they regard as vital to the success of their enterprise. In the last act of the scenario they would call for the convening, under UN auspices, of an international peace conference, which would be attended by Israel, the PLO, the Arab countries concerned, the two superpowers, and various European states.

Is that plan too ambitious or even illusory? "Perhaps," the Fatah leaders reply, "but what alternative do we have other than abandoning our most fundamental right to have a homeland?"

Arab Parliamentary Union Continues Deliberations

LD241834 Kuwait KUNA in English 1059 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] San'a', Jan 24 (KUNA) — The inter-Arab Parliamentary Union resumes deliberations here Tuesday to tackle a number of items on its agenda including a controversial Sudanese proposal to reinstate Egypt in the union. The proposal was made yesterday in the course of an address by the speaker of the Sudanese People's Assembly, 'Iz al-'Ayn as-Sayid as a prelude to Egypt's return to the Arab fold. He noted that the Arab world needs to reconcile its internal differences and unite so that it firmly tackle its principal issues. He said Egypt under president Husni Mubarak has changed and this could be confirmed by the positive role it played during the Lebanese and Palestinian crises. The speaker said Egypt without the Arab world is weak and so is the Arab world without Egypt.

Other participants who took the platform were the speaker of the Constituent Assembly of the Arab Republic of Yemen, 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi; Kuwait National Assembly speaker, Muhammad Yusuf Al-Adasani; and chief Palestinian delegate Ismael Hasan al-Khalil.

Al-Khalil stressed that Palestinian people are committed more than ever to their national rights as endorsed at Arab summits. He rejected U.S. President Ronald Reagan's peace initiative because it does not meet the legitimate rights of Palestinians. Al-Khalil asked the council to send a message to the U.S. Government calling on it to ask Israel to withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

In the meantime, the IPU's political, financial and legislative and internal regulation committees met today to discuss a variety of issues on their agenda. On Wednesday the council is also to meet and discuss reports presented by the various committee and form a committee to write the final communique.

Iraqi Delegation's Activities

JN242022 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] National Assembly Secretary 'Abd al-Qadir al-Janadi has asserted that the Iranian regime's continuous rejection of the world and Arab public opinion's will, and its disregard for the UN Security Council's resolutions place historical responsibilities on the Arab nation and the whole world. In a speech, 'Abd al-Qadir al-Janadi, National Assembly delegation head to the 14th session of the Arab Parliamentary Union, warned agaisnt a new attack by the Iranian regime. He said that this would make Iraq carry out deterrent operations in order to punish this regime which threatens security and peace in the region.

'Abd al-Qadir al-Janadi said the situation which faced the PLO in Tripoli — where it was besieged from the land by the forces of the Syrian and Libyan regime, and from the sea by the Zionist invaders — is a matter which did not happen before, because the cover is Palestinians and the conspirators carry the Arab identity. He said that today, more than ever before, our Arab nation is required to support the PLO.

The National Assembly delegation head reiterated Iraq's support for Lebanon on the path of national accord, and Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, independence.

Sa'd Qasim Hammudah, National Assembly Arab and International Relations Committee chairman, and member of the Iraqi delegation, said that Iraq presented to the conference three draft resolutions on the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Palestine cause, and the clearing of the Arab atmosphere.

KUWAIT

Joint Maneuvers Held With Saudi Air Force

Saudi Aircraft Arrive

GF231910 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] An echelon of F-15 aircraft belonging to the Saudi Royal Air Force arrived in Kuwait early this week to take part in joint air exercises with air force and defense forces in fraternal Kuwait.

These exercises, which come at the recommendation of the GCC to hold joint exercises among the various branches of armed forces in the GCC countries, will last about 10 days and will be followed later this year, God willing, by a number of joint exercises with air forces in a number of fraternal GCC countries.

Joint Maneuvers Begin

LD241600 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 24 Jan (KUNA) — It was announced today that the Kuwaiti and Saudi air forces are currently engaged in joint maneuvers here, the third such joint activity in 3 months.

Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Turki Ibn Nasir ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, commander of the Saudi air force taking part in the maneuvers — which include F-15 aircraft — said the objective of holding these maneuvers is to achieve common benefit from the capability of these forces as well as cooperation between brothers.

Saudi Commander Comments

LD242254 Kuwait KUNA in English 1902 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 24 (KUNA) — The commander of the Saudi air squadron, currently here for a joint training exercise, Tuesday praised the high degree of coordination and cooperation between the Kuwait and Saudi air forces and indicated that the exercises included all types of missions such as air fights, support and other operations.

Staff Colonel (pilot) Prince Turki ibn Nasir 'Abd al-'Aziz said that the current air exercises were only the beginning of joint maneuvers to be carried out by the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, and pointed out that similar ones will soon follow in the other GCC countries. Praising Kuwait's hospitality and the warm fraternal sentiments showed by all, the Saudi flight commander highly valued the experience gained by participants in this training scheme, in which, Prince Turki stated, all types of planes were used.

ARAB TIMES on Municipal Election Winners

GF221202 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 21 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Five new faces are joining Kuwait's Municipal Council following Wednesday's elections. The five new members will join five others who have been re-elected. Six other members will be appointed by the government.

The new members are Badr al-'Ubayd, Fahd al-'Ulaj, Ahmad an-Nassar, advocate Humud al-Quraybani, and 'Ali al-'Ajmi.

The five members re-elected to the council include the former chairman, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-'Abasani, Sadiq Khalaf al-Jum'a, Marzuq Muflih al-'Amerah, Fahd 'Ali al-Jabri, and Hayf Sa'd al-Hajraf. Al-'Adasani was re-elected with a massive 2,164 votes, 2,038 more than his nearest rival, 'Isa Fahd al-Ghanim, who polled only 126.

Ahmad an-Nassar said that he had been elected not so much for his personal popularity but more for what he stood for. He said he wanted to ensure that essential services were provided for his constituency and for the whole country. He pointed to several shortcomings, including the lack of detailed plans and the non-supervision of contractors, and to the unnecessary bureaucracy in municipality work. An-Nassar graduated in economics from Kuwait University in 1974. He worked at the Ministry of Commerce until 1978, when he resigned to concentrate on his own business.

Fahd al-'Ulaj said he would concentrate on improving the services provided in the Qalib Ash-Shuyukh area, which he claimed had been sorely neglected.

The administrative staff will come under close scrutiny by Hamud al-Quraybani, who said he would also be looking into improve the cleansing services in many areas. Al-Quraybani won his seat by only 14 votes.

The minister of state for cabinet affairs, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, congratulated the winners of the elections in a telephone call from Casablanca, where he was accompanying HH the amir to the Islamic summit meeting. Husayn said the opening procedures for the new council session will be completed after government-appointed members have been selected.

PDRY

YSP Chairman Receives DPRK Vice Minister

GF241932 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received this morning in his office at the secretary of the party's central committee Comrade (Yi Yong-un), DPRK vice minister of external economic affairs.

Bilateral relations were discussed during the meeting.

QATAR

Nigerian Visitor Conveys Message to Amir

GF241502 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, deputy amir and heir apparent, has received a message addressed to His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir, from General Mohamed Buhari, head of the Nigerian military government.

The message was conveyed by Brigadier General Mohamed Nasko, member of the Supreme Military Council in Nigeria, during his meeting with the deputy amir and heir apparent in his office at the Ad-Dawhah Palace today.

The meeting was attended by Khalid ibn Muhammad al-Mani', minister of public health; 'Abdallah ibn Khalifah al-'Attiyah, director of the deputy amir and heir apparent's office; and Ahmad Jasim al-Mulla, director of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry.

Brig Gen Nasko conveyed the greetings of His Highness, the head of the Nigerian Government, to His Highness the amir, His Highness the deputy amir and heir apparent, and to the Qatari Government and people.

Nigerian Envoy Departs

GF241550 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 24 Jan (WAKH) — Brigadier General Mohamed Nasko, member of the Nigeria's Supreme Military Council, left Doha for Baghdad this afternoon after a 2-day visit to Qatar, during which he delivered a message to His Highness Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani.

SAUDI ARABIA

Officials Receive Visiting Indian Party Leader

LD241457 Riyadh SPA in English 1337 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 24, SPA — Dr Rafiq Zakaria, a prominent leader of India's ruling Congress-I Party and a founder member of the Indo-Arab society, has conferred with Saudi Foreign Affairs Secretary 'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thuniayan on matters of mutual interest, it was reported today.

Before leaving for Turkey on Monday as part of a three-week goodwill mission to five countries in the Middle East, Dr Zakaria had talks also with Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Mas'ud on the position of Moslems in India, Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war and peace in the Middle East, the Jidda-based *ARAB NEWS* said.

During his four-day stay in the Kingdom, Dr Zakaria, the deputy leader of the Congress-I Party in Parliament and holding a cabinet minister's rank, had performed the umra (minor pilgrimage) and met the assistant secretary general of the Moslem World League and a number of editors and mediamen of leading English and Arabic newspapers.

The paper quoted Dr Zakaria as saying that his discussions in the Kingdom centered on how Arab unity and a home for Palestinians can be achieved, and what role India can play in it.

Before coming to Jidda, he visited Egypt for three days and called on Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan Ali, the paper said.

From Turkey, he is due to visit Iran and Tunisia.

Ministry Denies Reports on Pakistanis' Detention

LD241517 Riyadh SPA in English 1348 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 24, SPA — An official source from the Saudi Interior Ministry categorically denied here today reports carried by a section of press media relating to the detention of 400 Pakistani nationals in Medina for celebrating the Prophet Muhammad's birthday. The source described the reports as absolutely baseless and lacking accuracy and truth.

He said the Saudi security authorities had detained not more than 20 people, including some Pakistanis, for special considerations which did not relate to the reasons which were given in the reports.

The source said that after the completion of the investigations the detainees were deported and the issue ended at that point. The source expressed sorrow about reactions caused among some Islamic Pakistani groups due to false allegations which were aimed in the first place to slander the fraternal and excellent relations between the two brotherly peoples in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

UAE

Chief of Staff Receives British Frigate Crew

GF241332 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1240 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Jan (WAKH) — Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi, UAE chief of the general staff, received here today the captain and the crew of the British frigate "Brazen" which is currently visiting the UAE. The captain and crew of the frigate visited the premises of the naval forces' command in Abu Dhabi.

The British frigate Brazen, which arrived in Abu Dhabi this morning, is paying a 5-day visit to the UAE.

More on Australian Foreign Minister's Visit

Palestinian Rights Sought

BK241203 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The foreign minister, Mr Hayden, renewed efforts to gain rights for the Palestianian people on the West Bank as central to Australia's continuing role in the Sinai Peacekeeping Force.

Meanwhile, senior members of Mr Hayden's party have met the Palestinian Red Crescent — the equivalent of the Red Cross — headed by Fathi 'Arafat, who is the brother of Yasir 'Arafat, who provides health services for Palestinians, particularly on the West Bank, in Jordan, and Lebanon.

The foreign minister authorized two members of his party to meet Mr 'Arafat. Radio Australia correspondent in Cairo, (Peter George), says Mr Fathi 'Arafat is reported to have sought Australian assistance for the Palestinian Red Crescent in the form of medical aid. But he was promised only that the request would be considered when the party returns to Australia.

Ghali on Sinai Force

BK251119 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1110 GMT 24 Jan 84

[From the "Australian Insight" program moderated by (Sue McAlister)]

[Text] Egypt's belief that Australia should remain in the Sinai Multinational Force — the MFO [Multinational Force and Observers] — was explained to John Lombard by the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali.

[Begin recording] [Ghali] I believe that the presence of the Australian men in the Multinational Forces in the Sinai is extremely important and valuable because it is a contribution to peace between Egypt and Israel, and it is a contribution to the stability of the region. I would like to add that we appreciate very much that your country, thousands and thousands of miles away, is taking an interest in peace in the Middle East. And this interest is in conformity with the long-lasting tradition of Australia's constructive role.

I remember when I was a student in 1945-46. I was working on the San Francisco documents, and the role of Australia was one of the most important in the subjects on the principle of peace and security in the international (?transition). So, you have a long tradition, and I believe that this presence in the Sinai is very important. Furthermore, the Multinational Force in the Sinai is welcomed by both Egypt and Israel, and therefore it is not a force which will be involved in any kind of military confrontation. It has the value of a symbol, it shows the interest of Australia to play a role in solving the Middle East crisis.

[Lombard] Your Excellency, has any time limit been put on the existence of the MFO?

[Ghali] The (?perfect idea) that the MFO is a multinational force which will have a kind of rotation. So, you have a presence for, the Australian presence, for example, for 1 year, and you can agree that you will send them back in the next year or 2 years later. The limit will be an agreement which will be reached between Egypt and Israel. Again, unless we have a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, I believe we'll need this symbolic force in the Sinai. But the day we can find a comprehensive peace and a lasting solution, then certainly both Israel and Egypt will agree to put an end to this Multinational Force.

[Lombard] So, it has an indefinite existence at the moment?

[Ghali] We did not talk about an indefinite existence because our real purpose is to have the United Nations forces. The Multinational Force is a kind of fallback position. So, if we can have the United Nations forces, which is one of the aims of Egyptian diplomacy, then the presence of the United Nations forces will put an end to the Multinational Force.

[Lombard] Your Excellency, you may be aware that the official Australian Labor Party policy is to withdraw the Australian contingent from the Sinai. Would that upset you?

[Ghali] We are trying to pursue the position to change their mind and keep the forces here among the different Multinational Forces. [end recording]

Mubarak's Sinai Force Request

BK250449 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Egypt's President Mubarak has formally requested that Australia continue taking part in the Multinational Force of observers in the Middle East. The Egyptian leader made the written request during talks with Australia's foreign minister, Mr Hayden, who is visiting Cairo. Mubarak reportedly said the Sinai force was an integral part in the search for peace in the region.

Radio Australia's Middle East correspondent, (Peter George), says Mr Hayden remained noncommittal and the talks then spread to wider regional issues.

Our correspondent says Mr Mubarak apparently stated that Egypt had encouraged the United States to deal directly with the Palestinian Liberation Organization and wanted Washington to pressure Israel into doing so as well.

Mr Hayden said after the talks that major new initiatives toward peace in the Middle East were beginning to emerge for the first time in many years.

Mubarak Receives Visiting Mauritian Official

NC241358 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] President Husni Mubarak today received Gaetan Duval, Mauritian vice prime minister and justice minister, who is cur-

rently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by Justice Minister Ahmad Mamduh 'Atiyah.

The Mauritian official met later with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. The discussions focused on bilateral relations and African issues.

'Ali Meets Palestinian Delegation From Gaza

NC241555 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jan (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with a Palestinian delegation representing the Gaza Strip. The delegation, which arrived in Cairo 2 days ago, is headed by Hashim 'Ata ash-Shawwa, chairman of the Citrus Producers Association and chairman of the board of directors of the Bank of Palestine in the sector. The delegation is comprised of Zuhayr as-Surani, Supreme Court judge; Sulayman Zari' al-Astal, mayor of Khan Yunis; Muhammad Mas'ud, mayor of Jabalya; Zuhdi Abu Sha'ban, secretary general of the Citrus Producers Association; and Husayn ash-Sha'ir, member of the Citrus Producers Association. The meeting was attended by Ambassador Taha al-Farnawani, director of the Palestine desk at the Foreign Ministry.

Following the 90-minute meeting, the head of the Palestinian delegation praised Egypt's stance on the Palestinian problem, adding that Egypt is known for its glorious history in the struggle for Palestinian rights. He added that the overwhelming majority in the occupied territories voices support for PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He expressed thanks, on behalf of the Gaza inhabitants, to the Egyptian people and their president, Husni Mubarak, for their honorable stands in support of the Palestinian people, particularly during their ordeal in Tripoli, and for Egypt's attention and care for the Palestinians.

Ash-Shawwa said he and Kamal Hasan 'Ali discussed a number of topics dealing with the situation in Gaza, foremost being economic issues, which he described as extremely important for the Palestinian people's steadfastness on their land. He also discussed the issue of citrus fruits and problems facing marketing facilities in Arab countries.

Ash-Shawwa added that his discussions with Kamal Hasan 'Ali also dealt with the problems of education in the Gaza Strip, saying that the sector only has the Islamic University. He noted that the deputy prime minister and foreign minister promised to accept a large number of Palestinian students in Egyptian universities. He said: "We desperately need to have our sons admitted into colleges of medicine, engineering, and pharmacy, as well as those of higher studies." The delegation head added that he and Kamal Hasan 'Ali also discussed a number of services that people on limited incomes in the sector need due to the deliberately high cost of living.

AL-AHRAM on Reagan Call for Mideast Stability

PM241215 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 20 Jan 84 p 3

[Unattributed "*AL-AHRAM* View" column: "A Blind Eye"]

[Text] President Reagan has probably for the first time referred to the Middle East as an area that could be one of cooperation between the Soviet Union and United States with a view to achieving stability there. However, he made this stability a means to serve relations between the two superpowers. For example, he asked the Soviet Union not to introduce sophisticated weapons into the area in order to ease tension and therefore improve some aspects of relations between the two countries.

President Reagan was probably paving the way for the nuclear disarmament conference which was opened in Stockholm with that statement, and was therefore seeking to deal with the Middle East question within this context. Nevertheless, it is no longer a secret to anyone that Washington's view of the area centers on the international dimension of its internal conflicts and their impact on universal U.S. interests vis-a-vis Soviet interests or on the entire relationship between the two giants.

Thus Reagan has again strayed this time from the regional line, as he has several times previously, though not necessarily because he has lost it but because he apparently prefers to talk about the area from his own strategic standpoint. Nevertheless, to disregard the Arab countries, which probably form the greater part of the area, is not only an affront to the Arabs but also indicates a considerable disregard for Arab power, which is represented on the map of the area by free and sovereign countries whose views, policies, and voice are not only felt and heard in the international arena but also have an impact on the most distant capitals and horizons.

For the call to ease tension to bear fruit, it should also cut both ways. A request to the Soviet Union not to introduce sophisticated weapons into the area would be fine and understandable if the United States committed itself to adopting the same stance by refraining from giving sophisticated weapons to Israel. Failing this, polarization with all its disastrous consequences will continue and the escalation will go on endlessly or until a disastrous end occurs.

AL-AHRAM Scores U.S.-Israeli Accord, Exercises

PM241421 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 18 Jan 84 p 7

[Editorial: "These Exercises"]

[Text] The U.S.-Israeli strategic agreement was a shock to all Arab states despite the special relations which have existed, and may continue to exist, between Washington and Tel Aviv and which give Israel most-favored-nation status in the economic, political, diplomatic, and armament fields. All Arab states were well aware of this U.S.-Israeli relationship and frequently tackled the various issues, formulated their policies, and planned their moves on that basis. The strategic agreement however was still a surprise to those states and a bitter pill to swallow.

The United States has tried in every possible way to assure the Arabs that the agreement adds nothing new to the existing situation. The United States even tried to promote more rapprochement, amity, and harmony with the moderate Arab regimes. The reaction of those regimes has ranged from absolute belief, via reservations, to absolute disbelief.

Now we hear that there is an inclination to begin implementation of the agreement with joint U.S.-Israeli air and naval exercises to be conducted on the basis of an assumed Syrian-Soviet attack on Lebanon, Jordan, and Israel. This step will undoubtedly tip the balance even more in Israel's favor and compound Arab fears because it surely confirms that the United States continues to view the Middle East from the angle of its own interests in the global conflict between it and the Soviet Union.

The Arabs must join hands to show the United States and others that the region's interests depend on them and on the settlement of their problems. Otherwise, they will be even less than mere pawns in an international chess game.

AL-AKHBAR Views Kohl's Visit to Israel

NC250706 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 25 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the title "What Kohl Must Do During His Visit to Israel," *AL-AKHBAR* says FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday began a visit to Israel amidst turmoil in the area. This turmoil involves Lebanon, the Palestinian issue, and the game of the superpowers — the United States and Soviet Union — in the area.

The paper adds: The FRG has immense economic and financial interests involved in its relations with the Arab countries. Furthermore, the FRG leader fully understands the bitter consequences that can befall Europe in general and his country in particular if the East-West conflict in the Middle East is seriously aggravated. The paper points out that in its opinion Kohl must inform the Israeli officials of his country's known stands on the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the necessity of withdrawing the Israeli forces from Lebanon so as to facilitate the withdrawal of the other forces. Kohl must also declare those stands following his talks with Israeli officials.

Concluding its article, the paper also asks Chancellor Kohl to urge Israel to adopt a course of peace and end its aggressive attitude towards the Palestinians, Lebanese, and other Arabs.

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,351

IN241646 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi military communique reports that during the past 24 hours two Iranians were killed, others were wounded, and one infantry position and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the operations sectors.

The communique issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening says that Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Sayyid Sadiq, and (Shandari) and its suburbs were shelled by the Iranian enemy, and several civilian installations were damaged. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,351 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The valiant sons of our Armed Forces continue their courageous activities in the operations sectors against the forces of the expansionist enemy. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units sighted an enemy troop concentration and some enemy equipment and military hardware opposite their positions east of Basra. Our units shelled them, scoring effective and direct hits, and inflicting losses of life and equipment on the enemy.

2. One of our forward units pounded an enemy troop concentration opposite its positions in the central sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, killing two, wounding others, and destroying one infantry position and one hardware stockpile.

3. The criminal Khomeyniites today shelled Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandari) and its suburbs, damaging several civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, on 24 January 1984

Preparations for Decisive Blow To End War Noted

GF241900 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1120 GMT 24 Jan 84

[From the WAKH Correspondent in Baghdad]

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jan (WAKH) — A military program presented by Baghdad television last night illustrated a clear picture of the mounting Iraqi determination to end the war through military action. The comments by the announcer of the weekly Defense Ministry program encouraged expectations of launching an effective blow, a possibility which has been the subject of talk for more than 1 month, in retaliation for Iran's continued military operations.

The announcer, who is a major, did not mention any military details concerning Iraqi plans to launch this blow. He only said that Iraq is determined to use sophisticated weapons in its possession to counter any new Iranian attack across the international border.

This warning came after the announcement of new military concentrations in different areas of the front which is being described as a clear indication of a possible attack by the Iranian forces.

He said that the Iraqis are determined this time not to leave the adventure without inflicting on Iran the severe punishment it deserves.

During the battles in Panjwin in the northern sector 2 months ago, Iran suffered more than 50,000 dead while large quantities of equipment and personnel were captured.

The warning which came in a military program from Baghdad television last night coincided with what was reported by diplomatic sources here recently of the arrival of sophisticated Soviet weapons, including medium range surface-to-surface missiles.

In a statement to the WAKH correspondent in Baghdad, the sources have not specified the number of these missiles. They only said there are enough. They said Iraq has also received mobile platforms to launch these rockets from various places to targets deep inside Iran.

With the arrival of these SS-12 rockets, Iraq now possess three types of ground-to-ground missiles in the Armed Forces. Iraq at the beginning of the war used FROG missiles which have a range of 65 km; then it used the Scud rockets which have a range of 270 km and which are believed to have been used in hitting selected targets in the cities of Behbehan, Ramhormoz, and other cities deep inside Iran last month in retaliation for the continued shelling of the border cities and the explosions in Kuwait.

The diplomatic sources disclosed Iraq's use of these missiles in destroying vital Iranian interests which President Saddam Husayn referred to in his recent speech on army day. The sources said that Khark Island will be a leading target if Iraq decides to carry out its warning soon.

Possible 'Arafat, Mubarak Visits Weighed

JN250858 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Amman (REUTER) — A Jordanian official said yesterday that Jordan and the PLO are discussing a date for talks between His Majesty King Husayn and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on a joint stand to confront the next phase.

The official, who is a minister, told REUTER: The government has certain commitments of a priority nature, but we are discussing a date for 'Arafat's visit.

Asked about a possible visit by President Mubarak, the minister said: We have no official information.

Diplomatic circles believe President Mubarak might visit Jordan after Iraq, possibly next month, in an attempt to boost current diplomatic efforts to revive the Middle East peace process.

Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah conveyed a message from King Husayn to President Mubarak earlier this week after the Islamic summit in Casablanca had called for Egypt's return to the ICO.

King To Hold Two Press Conferences 28 Jan

JN241546 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 24 Jan (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn will hold two press conferences on Saturday, 28 January 1984. In the first press conference, the king will speak to local and Arab journalists and media correspondents. In the second, he will speak to international media correspondents. In both press conferences the king will speak about various local, Arab, and international affairs and developments as well as answer the journalists' questions.

Iraq's Taha Yasin Ramadan Arrives in Amman

JN251015 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister, arrived in Amman this morning leading a delegation on a visit to Jordan. He will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and also hold talks with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and senior officials on promoting bilateral relations.

He was received at Amman airport by Ahmad 'Ubaydat, the prime minister; Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister; the ministers of transport, trade and industry, finance, and tourism; and the Amman governor. The Iraqi ambassador in Amman and the embassy staff were also at the airport to receive the Iraqi official.

Qatari Foreign Minister Arrives 24 January

JN241628 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani arrived in Amman this evening on an official visit to Jordan that will last a few days. During the visit he will meet with a number of senior officials. Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, the Qatari ambassador in Amman, and the embassy staff received him at the airport.

Husayn Receives Al Thani

JN241858 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this evening Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani. The minister congratulated the king on his recovery from his recent indisposition and wished him good health. Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd attended the meeting.

Prime Minister Receives Hebron Delegation

JN241558 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1408 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 24 Jan (PETRA) — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat received a delegation representing the governorate of Hebron this morning. The delegation includes a number of mayors, heads of municipal councils, tribal chiefs, and professionals. They congratulated the prime minister on the royal confidence expressed in him in his appointment as prime minister.

Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Hijjah, Yatta mayor and head of the delegation, spoke during the meeting and expressed the Hebron citizens' appreciation for the king's historic step of restoring parliamentary life to Jordan. He also expressed their confidence in the government's efforts to rescue the kinfolk and the land in the occupied homeland.

'Ubaydat also received two delegations comprising representatives of various popular sectors in Jerusalem and Ramallah who congratulated him on the royal confidence.

Israel Bans Former Gaza Mayor's Departure

JN231536 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 23 Jan (PETRA) — The Israeli occupation forces yesterday banned former Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa from crossing the King Husayn bridge, preventing him from pursuing his trip to Jordan.

AD-DUSTUR on Kohl's Visit to Israel

JN251005 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 25 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "How Long Will This Obvious Blackmail Continue?" *AD-DUSTUR* says: Perhaps the demonstrations which Israeli circles have organized for the reception of FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl upon his arrival in occupied Palestine yesterday have opened the eyes of the German people and Kohl himself to the enormity of the Zionist campaign of organized blackmail which has been going on for the past 40 years since the fall of the Nazi Reich and the emergence of modern Germany. Although the German people and their successive governments have gotten rid of every legacy of nazism, Israel is still trying hard to keep Germany the victim of the guilt complex so as to continue to blackmail it and prevent it from establishing balanced relations with the Arab states, which Chancellor Kohl visited a few months ago amid manifestations of warm welcome, amity, and friendship. No doubt, the government of Chancellor Kohl is aware of Israel's blackmail game. It also knows precisely the kind of atmosphere with which the Israeli Government wants to surround the German visitor, as is evident from the staging of fake hostile demonstrations even before talks began, which means that the Israeli conditions and demands will be endless.

AD-DUSTUR continues: Although we believe that Chancellor Kohl, who is aware of his country's wide interests with the Arab states, will not submit to the dictates and obvious blackmail of the Shamir government, this will not deter Israel from continuing its active attempts to restrict Germany's balanced policy in the region by obtaining prior German commitments not to expand German- Arab cooperation, especially with regard to withholding the supply of German weapons and military equipment from the Arabs.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: While observing the current visit by the German chancellor and the talks that are taking place with Israeli officials, we hope strongly that Germany will continue to adhere to its objectives and principles, which we greatly appreciate and respect, and will therefore foil any Israeli attempt to hamper the strong cooperation with the Arab side. Any negative effect resulting from the Israeli blackmail attempts will have an impact on Germany's interests and German-Arab relaitons, leaving Israel the only beneficiary.

Senate, House Approve Draft Electoral Law

JN241306 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — Both the Senate and the House of Representatives today unanimously approved the amended draft law to the House of Representatives 1984 electoral law, which the Cabinet referred to them.

The House of Representatives met this morning under Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the Cabinet members attending. The house unanimously approved the draft law. The Senate also met this morning under President Ahmad al-Lawzi with the prime minister and Cabient members attending. During the session, the Senate approved the draft law.

Cabinet Approves Electoral Law Amendment

JN250948 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 25 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* — During a session it held under Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat yesterday, the Cabinet approved the law amending the Jordanian electoral law for 1984 which had been approved by the two houses of Parliament earlier yesterday. The Cabinet then submitted the amendment for ratification by his majesty the king.

Briefs

Ambassador in Aden — Ammasn — *AD-DUSTUR* — The Cabinet has decided to appoint Jordan's ambassador in San'a', Zuhayr Sakkijha, nonresident ambassador in Aden. [Text] [Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 24 Jan 84 p 26 JN]

Salim May Visit Rome, Washington, Paris
NC241832 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Despite the good omens carried by some information media, the situation has not changed politically, particularly with respect to the security plan. Some sources reported that the regime is attempting to confront this aspect. For this purpose, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim is attempting to fix a new date for his visits to Rome, Washington, and Paris. However, the final date of the visit depends on the outcome of current contacts in Beirut, Riyadh, and Damascus.

Haddad Briefs Liaison Body Committee 24 Jan
NC241330 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1152 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Telephone dispatch from radio correspondent Joe Sa'adah from the Presidential Palace in B'abda — live]

[Text] Dr Wadi' Haddad, presidential adviser on national affairs, today briefed the Political Committee of the Higher Liaison Body — which met at the Presidential Palace in the presence of Staff Brigadier General Antoine Barakat, the new general coordinator of the Multinational Force — on the political situation and new developments regarding the continuing endeavors to implement the security plan. The state continues to seek with the parties concerned the elimination of those obstacles facing the plan in order to ensure security for the citizens and create a suitable atmosphere for achieving a political breakthrough. Dr Haddad also dealt with regional developments and their possible effects.

Staff Colonel Victor Rasmi, director of the Operations Room at the Presidential Palace, then reviewed the most important security developments in various Lebanese areas, detailing the means employed by terrorists in their operations against the security of the citizens and safety of the homeland.

Junblatt Cables Shultz On Resignation Call
NC241440 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic to Lebanon 1240 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt yesterday sent a cable to Secretary of State George Shultz, the architect of U.S. policy in Lebanon and the area through the Marines in Beirut, in which he said: Yes, we have called for the resignation of Amin al-Jumayyil and his government because the policy of that regime will lead to the destruction and burning of Lebanon. Moreover, that regime is no better than the death squads terrorizing El Salvador. That regime has protected the culprits of the Sabra and Shatila massacres. It is also responsible for the massacres at Kafr Matta, 'Bayh, and Al-Binnay, and is daily shelling 'Alayh, the Ash-Shuf, Al-Matn, and Beirut's southern suburb.

For this reason, we are dutybound toward our people to call on that regime to depart. If the United States and the architects of its foreign policy cannot yet realize what is better for Lebanon and its people, we warn them that the continuous support of the clan's regime will drive us to defend our rights to live in freedom. We also warn the advocators of that one-sided policy that they are responsible for its consequences in Lebanon.

Junblatt's Damascus Meetings, Statements
JN241828 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] A written statement distributed last night by the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] confirmed the statements made by PSP leader Walid Junblatt calling for President Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation and the resignation of the Lebanese Government. This has been the subject of many contradictory reports during the past 2 days.

Junblatt confirmed his call for President Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation, before destruction befalls Lebanon in view of his dumb policy, as Junblatt put it. Junblatt added: We will not participate with President al-Jumayyil in any government, under any formula. Junblatt also used strong words against President al-Jumayyil and Phalangist Party.

Junblatt warned the United States of the consequences of pursuing what he described as a total bias toward the Lebanese regime. He said: The decisionmakers in the United States have thus far failed it offer anything to the Lebanese people. We warn them that their continued assistance to the regime will force us to defend ourselves, and that they will be responsible for the consequences resulting from their one-sided policy in Lebanon.

It is worth noting that Junblatt accompanied these statements with an intensive diplomatic campaign. He met here yesterday in the Swiss Embassy with the ambassadors of Switzerland, Austria, Yugoslavia, Sweden, Finland, and Cyprus. He handed them memorandums containing the Lebanese National Salvation Front's [NSF] views on the political and security developments in the Lebanese capital. Junblatt met earlier for the same purpose with the USSR and U.S. ambassadors as well as with the ambassadors of the 10 European countries. He also met with the Romanian ambassador and held a second meeting with the French ambassador in Damascus with whom he discussed the MNF's role and the question of arming the Lebanese Army. Junblatt also telephoned Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri, who is currently in Riyadh, met with Hani Salam, and is expected to meet with Former Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, expected to arrive in Damascus at the head of a political and spiritual delegation.

PSP sources denied reports of the existence of differences between Junblatt and Former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah. These sources added that contacts are underway for holding a summit meeting of the NSF leaders.

A ranking Western diplomatic source told us he is surprised at the new stand, particularly in view of the fact that Junblatt and Nabih Birri had agreed to the security plan. The source attributed the change in stands to Junblatt's surprise after having given

his principled agreement on the security plan to the issuance of the decrees on promotions in the Lebanese Army, under which the officers of the Hammanah garrison were excluded without any valid reason. The source added that Junblatt viewed this as a very serious development in view of the repercussions this will have in the Lebanese arena. The Western diplomatic source said: That is why Junblatt has decided to boycott the Lebanese regime.

On the Syrian stand, the Western diplomatic source said Syria supports its allies in Lebanon and this is a natural situation. The source added: However, we must not forget that Syria has its independent viewpoint and decisionmaking. We must also mention the meeting which took place at the Syrian Foreign Ministry this morning between Junblatt and his top aides and Khaddam. No details on what was discussed were revealed but the meeting has been described as very important. It is known that Syria is pursuing its sincere efforts aimed at establishing security in Lebanon and achieving accord among all Lebanese.

Voice of Truth Carries Junblatt 'Appeal'

NC241526 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 24 Jan 84

["Appeal" by Progressive Socialist Party President Walid Junblatt addressed to the "sons of the mountain" — date not given; read by announcer]

[Text] Oh sons of the mountain, oh sons of the mountain: You are now confronting a serious phase in the bloody strife that the Phalangist Party has ignited. Through this strife, the Phalangist Party wants to protect its sectarian and factional privileges. The Phalangists are trying to expel you from your villages and homes during this phase. The Phalangist Party has rebuilt and amassed its factional army. It has used all the state's potentials to purchase the weapons and ammunition that sow destruction, ruination, and death in our villages, and daily endanger our sons, families, and livelihood. These weapons and munitions also paralyze our future and destroy our economy.

Let none of you be taken in by the propaganda that is emanating from their misled and misleading information media, nor by their talk about the security plan. That plan is none other than one for outflanking, besieging, and expelling you.

Oh, you who have stood your ground against all acts of aggression and have protected your dwellings and womenfolk with your bare chests and modest resources; you have also won this protection with the strength, vigor, and enthusiasm of your youth, as well as with the wisdom of your elders and prayers of your children and mothers. You have proven your worth and chivalry. You broke loose from the stranglehold of the first conspiracy. You now face another test. Therefore, strengthen your determination, boost the enthusiasm of your brothers, and make full preparations for confronting the new plot which is no less dangerous than the conspiracy that was rebutted by your triumphant and dignified bandwagons.

Turn your villages and their approaches into bastions in the face of the enemies of your homeland destiny, in the face of the factional army that is attacking you daily, and in the face of the Phalangists and isolationists who harbor all evil for you. With great fervor double your efforts to face the future. Realize that you are not alone in this fateful battle on which your future depends, as well as the future of Lebanon.

Oh sons of the mountain: We lack neither willpower, weapons, nor ammunition. We have been and will remain faithful to our martyrs. We will remain dedicated to our land, and continue to solemnly adhere to the pledge we have taken upon ourselves. We have pledged to live as free men in our homeland. We have pledged to be dignified on our land and honorable in our dealings. We have made that pledge for our own sake, not for the sake of others. Meanwhile, we will discharge duties equal to those that they discharge. Let us face this phase as we have previously faced it. We will definitely triumph because we have our rights and are the champions of a cause.

[Signed] Walid Junblatt, president of the Progressive Socialist Party

VOL on Whereabouts of Kidnapped Saudi Consul

NC250552 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] According to information available to the Voice of Lebanon, Saudi Consul General al-Farrash is still being detained in the Bir al-Abid locality [in West Beirut], specifically in the basement of a six-story building. A tricolor green, yellow, and red flag flies from the first floor, which is an office for Jund Allah [Soldiers of God]. The building is guarded by three armored personnel carriers and approximately 40 men equipped with various types of weapons.

According to information available to us, the group that kidnapped the consul consisted of eight gunmen, four of them Palestinians and the others Lebanese. The group receives instructions from an Arab intelligence officer.

CSSR Daily Interviews Leading Lebanese Communist

AU231750 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 21 Jan 84 p 7

[Milan Madr dispatch from Beirut: "Three Factors of Optimism; Talking to a Representative of the Lebanese Communist Party"]

[Text] "We believe that regardless of how difficult the situation is, the worst is already behind us. Naturally, considerable dangers continue to exist. However, from the political viewpoint it is most important that Israel has not achieved the aims it pursued through aggression, and that it has such serious worries that it will have to leave our country sooner or later."

This was stated by Sa'dallah Mazrani, Central Committee Politburo member of the Lebanese Communist Party in a talk with *RUDE PRAVO's special correspondent and other Czechoslovak* journalists in Beirut.

Mazrani also stated that three factors justify an optimistic view of further developments. The first is a local, Lebanese one, and is the fact that resistance against the Israeli aggressors and reactionary machinations of the Phalangists is steadily increasing. The second factor is that firm relations exist between the patriotic and progressive Lebanese forces and Syria. Like us, Syria also has refused to accept the results of the Israeli aggression, particularly as regards the Israeli-Lebanese treaty of last May. The third factor justifying an optimistic view is an international one: namely, the fact that the socialist states, and particularly the Soviet Union, have granted and continue to grant Syria significant political and military support and assistance. These three factors are extremely important and their significance is steadily growing, Comrade Mazrani stressed. The balance of forces is constantly changing in favor of our common struggle, but this does not mean our struggle is an easy one.

The Lebanese crisis is closely bound to the Mideast crisis, and as long as the United States and Israel continue not to recognize the Palestinians' legitimate rights, the crisis will continue. The situation is also complicated by the Lebanese Government's agreement to the American plans, both as regards Lebanon and the entire Arab world. Our problem is that when the Lebanese want to reach an agreement, they will encounter an obstacle in the shape of the United States. This was proved by last November's National Reconciliation negotiations in Geneva. Most of the participants there rejected the Israeli-Lebanese treaty, and entrusted President al-Jumayyil with the task of explaining this to the United States. However, the United States continues to insist on the treaty; moreover, during Shamir's talks in Washington, Israeli-American cooperation was even further deepened.

In connection with the mission of American emissary Rumsfeld, the representative of the Communist Party of Lebanon stated that its aim was to divide the Lebanese patriotic forces and isolate Syria. For example, the endeavor to freeze the treaty with Israel means nothing more or less than placing that document outside the discussion. We reject this, and Syria has also rejected this. The Americans are striving to win time, up to the moment when they think they can push their intentions through. The United States wants to freeze the situation in Lebanon in a way that would enable it to begin enforcing the Reagan plan on a broader Mideast scale. It is pushing Jordan to make it become a kind of Palestinian representative. Jordan verbally recognizes the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinians; but the measures it hasadopted, including the convening of the Jordanian Parliament and the inclusion of ministers of Palestinian origin in the Jordan Government, all lead in a completely different direction. The point at issue is not in the least the creation of an independent Palestinian state and recognition of the PLO's legitimacy, but something quite different, the Lebanese Communist Party representative stressed. In these broader connections he then included the course of the Islamic countries' conference which just ended in Morocco. Comrade Mazrani called the invitation to Egypt to return to that organization without any specific conditions as an enforcement of the American plan.

With regard to the situation in the Palestinian movement, he stated that a serious split has occurred. Yasar 'Arafat's visit to Egypt and his negotiations with President Mubarak were a serious political mistake, and have also caused a division in both the Palestinian resistance movement, and among the Palestinian population on the Israeli-occupied territories.

Continuing Reportage on Security Situation

Reports on Fighting 24 Jan

NC241526 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic to Lebanon 1456 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Clashes are continuing on the two axes of 'Aytat and in the western quarter of 'Alayh. The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] positions are now coming under fire from all types of weapons. The fire is originating from the positions of the factional and [words indistinct] army and its allies. PSP forces are returning fire with appropriate weapons.

Army Positions Shelled

NC241509 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] A security source reports that Army positions in Suq al-Gharb are coming under 120-mm mortar shelling. The Army positions in Qurs al-Mudawwar came under similar fire 1 hour ago. The source says that three shells landed on the At-Tiru area east of the airport a short while ago.

Clashes in Al-Kharrub Region

NC241847 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Our correspondent in the Al-Kharrub region reported a short while ago that heavy machinegun and rocket fire is being directed against Barja, B'asir, Al-Mughayriyah, and Darayya. The Phalangist attacks intensified against Al-Mughayriyah at 1700. Residential quarters in the town came under indiscriminate shelling from the Phalangist militia's gun emplacements in Jun, Dayr al-Mukhallis, and Majdaluna.

'Guarded' Calm in Suburb

NC241850 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] A security source reports that Army positions in Suq al-Gharb have been coming under concentrated shelling from gunmen's positions since 1900. The Army positions are returning the fire with the appropriate weapons to silence the sources of shelling. As of 1830, a guarded calm prevails on Beirut's southern suburb axes and mountain.

Clashes in Southern Suburb

NC242012 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Security sources report that clashes employing medium-caliber weapons broke out at 2115 on the Mar Mikha'il axis in Beirut's southern suburb.

Security Situation Update

NC242141 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Between 2145 and 2230, Army positions in Suq al-Gharb came under bursts of antiaircraft fire. This was accompanied by the falling of shells [words indistinct], which continue to fall intermittently.

A state of guarded calm is prevailing on the Al-Kharrub region's axes. However, it is being disturbed by explosions [word indistinct] occasionally targeted on the residential areas.

Suq al-Gharb Area Shelled

NC251018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Security sources report that since 1105 today clashes with various kinds of heavy-caliber weapons have been taking placein the Suq al-Gharb area. The clashes began after Army positions in Suq al-Gharb, Qurs al-Mudawwar, and 'Ayn ar-Rummanahwere shelled by mortars and heavy artillery from the Bhamdun area.

At 0950, Army positions in 'Ayn Ksur were shelled by 81-mm mortars. The shelling is continuing.

Suq al-Gharb Clashes Continuing

NC251157 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1152 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] A security source reports that an exchange of tank fire is now taking place on the Suq al-Gharb front. It appears that the gunmen have violated the cease-fire reached at 1150.

IDF Patrol Fired On; No Casualties Reported

NC241414 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] At 1500 today an IDF patrol was subjected to machine-gun fire and hand grenades in Ar-Rayhan, Jazzin District, specifically in the Al-Khashshah area. Israeli Forces subsequently cordoned off and combed the area.

United States Said Continuing 'Terrorist Course'

JN241933 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the United States has moved once again toward danger, and the Reagan administration has begun to fabricate excuses in order to undermine hopes for peace and Syria's good intentions toward the American people. U.S. diplomacy has raised the slogan of fighting terrorism, as if the people who are struggling for their rights are terrorists, while the U.S. military concentrations in Lebanon, the Mediterranean Sea, Grenada, and the Arab Gulf do not represent terrorism in the U.S. Administration's viewpoint.

Senior U.S. officials have begun to launch threats against Syria and the Lebanese people, and force and attempts to sway have become the prominent features of the U.S. policy at this stage. However, the United States has forgotten that threats failed to make Syria cede its rights while the masks have dropped from the faces of those who submitted to the U.S. and Israeli administrations. Perhaps, the downfall of those who deviated from the pan-Arab course has encouraged the United States to return to its old method of threatening by the force of its fleets and planes. The U.S. Administration has forgotten that Syria has never been surprised by the downfall of rulers who bargain over their nation's causes, and that Syria derives its strength and decisions only from its own will.

The United States must realize that the decision of war and peace in the Middle East will not be made by the Reagan administration as long as it supports the aggressors and disavows the Arabs' rights and existence. Undoubtedly, the United States can continue with its terrorist course, but it will not be able to convince the world, including the American people, that those who defend their rights and existence are terrorists.

As the Reagan administration reponded to good intentions with more threats, it must realize that Syria's good intentions were not a reverse in its principled line, or weakness in front of the U.S. force which we do not disregard. However, we do not agree that U.S. force is stronger or more capable than our will and the support of our Arab masses and friends for our struggle and rights.

George Shultz and President Reagan can utter whatever irrational statements they wish, but they cannot implement the policy that serves U.S. and Israeli aims without inflicting on the United States losses that will be many times greater than any gains that the United States might realize through threats and the use of force. Despite the statements made by the political and war leaders in the U.S. White House and Pentagon, Syria will stick firmly to its rights and objectives. Syria will not become what the United States wants it to be — one of the countries revolving in the U.S. orbit — such as the defeatists who submitted to U.S. plans and objectives.

It is true that the United States has rearranged its alliances in the region in a way that they have become stronger; and it is true that U.S. agents are dedicating themselves to serving U.S. policy, but what is more true than all this is that the Arab masses are able to upset U.S. balances depsite U.S. confidence in the weakness of these masses in front of their rulers. The evidence is the bitter and hard experiences that the U.S. policy is still facing. The U.S. policy must expect more tragedies if it continues with its adventures, and if it tries to carry out its threats.

King Husayn, Shamir BBC Interviews Analyzed

JN241616 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1235 GMT 24 Jan 84

[From the "On the Events" program]

[Text] Yesterday evening, King Husayn and Israeli Prime Minister Shamir appeared on the BBC's weekly Panorama program. Shamir said that his government is only interested in holding negotiations with the Jordanian regime within the framework of the Camp David accords. He expressed his belief that there is no need to launch a new peace campaign and that the present time constitutes a real opportunity for what he called the establishment of peace with Jordan. Shamir added that he hopes that the Palestinians will come to realize that violence will not achieve anything, and that from this premise, they will change their methods of action and ways of thinking.

King Husayn stressed that there are many points of agreement with what Shamir had stated when he said that the time has come to reassess all the options that are under discussion. King Husayn, however, expressed despair over the possibility of a response by Shamir's government to his stands, as he admitted that this government may not give him anything in light of its stand that the occupied Palestinian West Bank is part of the so-called greater Israel.

While speaking about Egypt's return to the Arab fold, King Husayn described the years during which the Arabs boycotted the Egyptian regime as being difficult years. He, however, did not touch on the role that may be assumed by the Mubarak regime if negotiations are held between the Jordanian regime and Israel.

Shamir reiterated what he said last Friday when he expressed Israel's support for the Jordanian regime's recent step concerning this regime's relationship with the 'Arafatist group, as this step substantiates King Husayn's desire to enter into negotiations based on the Camp David accords as Shamir had announced. As for Hayim Herzog, president of the Zionist entity, he announced on the same day that there is a so-called state of peace between Israel and Jordan.

It seems that what King Husayn announced yesterday on his fears that he may come out empty-handed from any future talks with Israel explains part of his doubts about Israel's intentions, especially since Shamir's government, as was the case with the Begin government, is not content with considering the occupied Palestinian West Bank as part of the land of Israel but also views east Jordan as the Palestinians' homeland. On 18 January, Shamir commented on King Husayn's reconvening of the Jordanian Parliament by saying that this step does not contradict the Camp David accords which guarantee a role for Jordan in the

settlement of the problem of what Shamir calls the Arabs of the Palestinian land.

The surprisig thing is that Israeli Prime Minister Shamir gave firm assurances that the Jordanian regime will inevitably hold negotiations with Israel in the stage of the establishment of autonomy and the determination of the final status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It seems that these assurances are not based on conjectures as much as they are based on specific information. Otherwise, Shamir would not have said verbatim that the day will come for the conclusion of a peace treaty with Jordan and that Israel is confident that Jordan will sign it.

Before entering into the negotiations, King Husayn seeks to wrest guarantees from Israel that it will not let him come out of the negotiations empty handed. Perhaps, King Husayn believes that Israel will give him a small part of the occupied West Bank to enable him to implement his old scheme of establishing a united kingdom. Otherwise, he would not have submitted in his recent speech to the Jordanian Parliament the slogan of the unity of the two banks.

In any case, King Husayn's final decision on holding negotiations with Israel depends on the results of his forthcoming talks with Yasir 'Arafat, who is not obsessed by the authorization to King Husayn to speak on behalf of the Palestinians on the basis of the Camp David accords but by the results of the disappointment that will stem from his granting this authorization to King Husayn. The coming weeks, nay the next few days, will show whether this is true.

TISHRIN on Husayn 'Gimmicks'

JN250943 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 25 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Captive of Illusions," *TISHRIN* writes about King Husayn's recent moves and political gimmicks in dealing with the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's right to liberate their land and establish their independent state on it.

TISHRIN says: In his interview with BBC Television, King Husayn admitted that the Israelis consider the West Bank to be part of Israel. The King wondered what justifications there are for talking to Israelis when their aims in discussing the future of the West Bank do not go beyond this consideration. This means that King Husayn is still prepared to negotiate with the Israelis provided they offer him something to negotiate about. Although the king did not announce his minimum demands, he is perfectly aware that Israel will not give him one inch of the West Bank because there is no reason to offer him any concession no matter how trival. On what bases has the king reactivated the declaration of the unity of the two banks of Jordan and the old parliament? Does he harbor any wish to liberate the West Bank through the Reagan plan which is based on the Camp David agreements which in turn include the idea of an autonomy that may be applied to the inhabitants rather than to the occupied land itself? This kind of autonomy was Israel's idea when the agreements were signed. Israel now rejects this autonomy plan despite the great gains which it may realize for Israel.

Is the king waiting for a no-confidence vote against the Shamir government and for Peres to assume power so that the plan may be implemented? Even if the king were so lucky as to have this opportunity, does he know that he will be asked to offer concessions commensurate with his demands for Israel's withdrawal?

TISHRIN adds: The king will be irrational and shortsighted if he believes that his offering concessions will lead to any results. These concessions will mean relinquishing both the Palestinian legitimate rights and Jordan's national rights. This is because Israel understands only the language of force, something which the king did not think of or take into account when Syria and the Egyptian Army were fighting the Israeli enemy in the October war.

What King Husayn really wants whenever a new issue is discussed, a certain plan is presented for implementation, or a crisis appears in his regime or the Jordanian entity is to make statements, play on contradictions, and exploit opportunities to entrench his regime and protect the Jordanian entity against threats and disturbances. The king is neither raising the banner of the cause nor is he enthusiastic about it despite the zeal he shows in his interviews and speeches. The king is perfectly aware that his talk about the unity of the two banks of the Jordan is mere rhetoric and at best a preconceived idea of a plan that will most probably be rejected even by those who invented it. What form will this unity take? The king himself admits that this unity is faced by insurmountable obstacles.

TISHRIN says: It is time King Husayn stops his political gimmicks in dealing with the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's rights in liberating their land and establishing their independent state on it. The king should let things take their natural course. Playing the 'Arafat card in these gimmicks does not hide the tampering with the cause and the Palestinian rights.

'Arafat and his supporters are wrong if they believe that authorizing King Husayn to speak on their behalf will enable them to enter the West Bank through Husayn's gate. Israel is now trying to push 'Arafat toward King Husayn and to attract the latter toward it. It wants 'Arafat to authorize the king and concede the Palestinian national sovereignty to him. The next stage will be for Israel to negotiate with the king on how he will capitulate to it. Thus, the Arabs will fall into the snare of Israel's usual policy — namely, that any new Israeli gain means canceling talks about previous gains. Concluding its comment, *TISHRIN* asks: When will these people stop making concessions in exchange for promises and false hopes? How long will the Arabs continue to be accused of shortsightedness and forgetfulness?

FRG Chancellor's Visit to Israel Viewed

JN241946 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrived in occupied Palestine today on a visit to the Zionist entity. This visit is considered the second of this kind in the framework of the FRG visits to the

Zionist entity. Kohl's statement upon his arrival at the airport asserted what was said in the FRG press — that this visit will open a new page in the development of FRG-Israeli relations. Upon his arrival, Kohl introduced himself to the Zionist officials as the political successor to Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, and the representative of the new FRG which seeks good relations with the Zionist entity. Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, who visited the Zionist entity in 1960, and whose services to the Zionist entity are still recalled by the Zionist circles, was the first to establish the bases of FRG-Zionist alliance and nuclear cooperation.

Kohl addressed the Zionists who received him by saying: You should depend on us regarding all issues, especially the issue of security. He described Israel's security as part of the FRG's security. News agencies quoted sources in the delegation accompanying Kohl as saying that Kohl's talks with the Zionist officials will deal with the Israeli relations with the EEC, and the FRG pledge, presented by Kohl in the past, to increase Israeli exports to the EEC. Between the security and economy, which the FRG chancellor promised the Zionist officials to achieve, the most prominent subjects on the agenda are the FRG's aid to the Zionist entity, and the FRG's role in the Middle East peace process within the Israeli-U.S. concept.

Damascus on Palestinian Opposition to 'Arafat

JN241352 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus — The popular Palestinian organizations and unions today issued a statement denouncing Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, considering it a violation of the National Charter and the PNC decisions. They said that the visit constitutes the peak of an individualistic and hegemonous course. The statement stressed that the deviation of 'Arafat and his gang has stripped them of their legitimacy to lead the PLO, and that they had lost this legitimacy by trying to link the PLO to the Cairo-Amman axis and the Camp David conspiracy. This is in addition to giving the Jordanian regime the right to represent the Palestinian people. The statement also denounced the invitation to hold a general congress based on the Fatah Central Committee statement issued following 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, affirming that such an invitation will push the PLO toward a national catastrophe.

The statement called for the need to safeguard the Palestinian national unity and the PLO's gains. It condemned the attempts to involve the popular unions in treason. It added that Fatah is basically responsible for maintaining these popular organizations' unity. The statement called for forming a large national front to confront the dangers of liquidating the Palestine question and to restore a national resurgence.

Reportage on Visit by FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl

Shamir Welcoming Speech

TA241253 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1212 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Speech by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at Ben-Gurion Airport upon the arrival of FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl — live]

[Text] Mr Chancellor of the Federal Republic of West Germany — I welcome you, your wife, and your entourage upon your arrival in our country with the blessing: Berukhim haba'im [welcome]. This is the second visit by a chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany since Israel renewed its independence. Relations between our countries and peoples cover a wide range of issues and problems. All of them must be debated and discussed so that each side better understands the other side's position. Therefore, I welcome this opportunity to exchange views with you and your colleagues.

We hope that in the framework of your visit to our country, you will be able to get a good impression of the essence of the State of Israel, and of the actions and aspirations of the people living in it. During your stay here, we will hold talks on international issues, on relations between Europe and Israel, on the various problems of the Middle East, as well as on the relations between us and the Federal Republic. We hope these talks help in deepening understanding and friendship between us. I wish you, your wife, and your entourage a pleasant stay here.

Kohl Arrival Speech

TA241319 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1215 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Speech by FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl upon his arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport; in German, translated from sequential Hebrew translation — live]

[Text] Mr Prime Minister, I thank you for the heartfelt words with which you welcomed me and my entourage; I thank you from the bottom of my heart. My first visit to Israel constitutes the second visit by a German chancellor to your country. There are many expectations and hopes in anticipation of our talks in this country, the Holy Land, the site of the holy shrines of three faiths in the world.

I regard your invitation for this visit, an invitation which I very gladly accepted, as a symbol for bridging the abyss of the past between our countries. I have come to you as the representative of a new Germany whose supreme goal is to respect human honor, justice, peace, and freedom. You have just heard our national anthem, whose music was composed by Haydn. We begin singing this anthem with words that recognize the importance of friendship, justice, and freedom.

I have come to you as the political heir and successor of Konrad Adenauer, whose name is woven in the history of the beginning of our countries' relationship. We want to deepen these friendly relations; I want to deepen them during this visit.

Israel is an important country to us. The Israeli people are close to our hearts. We have been following the enterprise of Israel's foundation and construction with astonishment. We wish and hope that you will be able to live in peace and freedom.

Israel is part of an area whose stability we, as Europeans and as your European neighbors, hold especially dear. Therefore, we are worried that efforts to achieve a lasting, just, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East have time and again taken a step backward. That is why we, and actually all those involved, must direct our efforts to seek and find solutions which will enable the nations of this region to live together, in peace and within safe and secure borders. Only a solution achieved through negotiations, a solution that can be accepted by all parties to the conflict, will enable the region to get rid of the burden of war forever.

We Germans are ready to make our contribution, along with our partners in the European Community, to make these negotiations possible. Mr Prime Minister, I thank you for your invitation, and I am already happy in anticipation of the visit, during which I will be able to learn about your country.

Memorial Tour; Shamir Meeting

TA241719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The Jerusalem police say that no stone was thrown at FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl's car when he visited Yad Vashem. According to the police, a demonstrator was seen picking up a pinecone, apparently in order to throw it at the car, but the police detained him and expelled him from the area. The police similarly arrested one of the demonstrators who tried to set fire to a flag with the swastika.

Our correspondent reports considerable tension during the tour of Yad Vashem. The chancellor cut into the explanations the deputy director of Yad Vashem, Re'uven Dafni, provided him with when the German entourage stood opposite a picture showing Hitler assuming power. The chancellor said: I am very well acquainted with my country's history, and it was a different Germany. After visiting Yad Vashem, the chancellor left for his first meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. The meeting lasted 90 minutes. In addition to the two officials, two of their aides also participated. At the same time a working meeting was underway in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, with Director General David Kimche and Germany's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Alois Mertes.

BETAR Demonstration

TA241737 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Report by Tzvi Lidar from broadcasting van at prime minister's office in Jerusalem — live]

[Excerpts] The meeting here at the prime minister's office lasted about 90 minutes and Helmut Kohl left the place about 15 minutes ago. The prime minister, however, is still in his office.

Naturally, we cannot elaborate on what was discussed in these chambers. There were four people in the meeting — or perhaps we should say six, if we count the interpreters for both parties as well. In addition to the chancellor and his host, the prime minister, there were two advisers: Yosi Ben-Aharon from the Israeli side, and one of Chancellor Kohl's aides.

All is very quiet now here at the prime minister's office. Earlier there was a little noise when a few dozen demonstrators, members of the BETAR [Herut affiliated] movement, stood outside and staged a noisy demonstration, but were summarily dispersed by the police.

'Friendly' Conversation With Shamir

TA241748 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1722 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Report by Tzvi Lidar from broadcasting van at prime minister's office in Jerusalem — live]

[Excerpt] Perhaps the most outstanding feature of the meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl is the fact that it was a very friendly conversation, as the prime minister's spokesman Avi Pazner said. It was a friendly talk indeed, but very general, aimed primarily at allowing the two leaders to get to know each other better, and also to let each party present its views — something ..ke a get-aquainted meeting.

The prime minister spoke at length about the past and the current ties between the two countries, and Chancellor Kohl did the same. The two leaders, in any case, reached the conclusion that it is necessary to establish friendly relations between the two countries, but at the same time never ignore the past and its effect. The talks were conducted in a limited forum, and they will continue to be held in such a fashion, to permit as open a dialogue as possible in the coming session.

Further on Talks

TA241828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Our reporter David Essing has just phoned in some details of the talks between West German Chancellor Kohl and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir: Prime Minister Shamir told the West German leader that Saudi Arabia is not the moderate state that people in Europe believe it is.

Discussing possible German arms sales to Saudi Arabia, Shamir said he had no doubt that whatever arms are supplied to Saudi Arabia will be used against Israel, whether directly or indirectly. He noted Saudi Arabia had supplied arms to the PLO.

Both Israeli and German spokesmen said the Shamir-Kohl meeting took place in a friendly, open atmosphere and talks were frank. The meeting centered mainly on Israel-German bilateral relations.

Shamir Opposes Saudi Deal

TA241911 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Our correspondent Tzvi Lidar has just learned that in his first meeting with the German chancellor, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening raised unequivocally Israel's firm opposition to the sale of German arms to Saudi Arabia. Helmut Kohl did not respond. The meeting lasted about 90 minutes, and will continue tomorrow morning.

Leaders Speak at Dinner

TA242019 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening expressed Israel's firm opposition to a German-Saudi arms sale deal already in his first meeting with the FRG chancellor. Helmut Kohl did not reply. Their meeting took about 90 minutes, and they will confer again tomorrow morning.

Later, in the course of a state dinner, the German chancellor said that his government's policy is to maintain good ties with both sides in the Middle East — Israel and the Arabs. He did not explicitly mention the arms sales affair, but clarified that Germany strives to help, to the extent possible, advance the solution of the Middle East conflict. At the same time, he emphasized that Germany does not conduct an independent policy in this sphere, but is part of the overall European Community's policy. He urged Israel to recognize the principles stated by the EEC for the Middle East, including the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and accept the right of all the countries in the region to have recognized and secure borders. He also asked Israel to refrain from establishing unilateral positions that could make the solution- finding process more difficult.

The FRG chancellor devoted a substantial part of his speech to the historic responsibility his country shoulders for the Nazi era events. The human image was violated by Germany, he said. I bow my head and grieve over the suffering caused to the Jewish people, he said, but emphasized that most of the Germans living today did not personally experience these difficult times, and the young German generation does not regard his country's history as an onus, but as a mission for the future. That generation refuses to undertake collective responsibility and guilt for its parents' deeds. The German Government is not shunning its historic responsibility, and this responsibility is what shapes its current policy.

Prime Minister Shamir said on the same occasion that to date the Jewish people in Israel walk around as a living yet disembodied organ, because the millions who wanted to come to Israel were exterminated. Had they come, we in Israel would today have numbered 8 or 10 million people. Shamir also said that it is inconceivable in Israel to turn a blind eye and ignore the past, no matter how ugly or shocking it may be, because this would constitute a sure recipe for the loss of national identity. The prime minister concluded his address with a call to continue to strengthen the ties with Germany on the economic and political levels.

Shamir Dinner Address

I 4250844 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 24 Jan 84

["Address by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at Dinner in Honor of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, 24 January 1984"]

[Text] Mr Chancellor and Mrs Kohl, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honor for me, Mr Chancellor, to welcome you on your first visit to Israel. During your stay here as our guest, you will have the opportunity to witness the process of the renaissance of the people of Israel in its homeland, and to learn first-hand of the issues affecting the essence of our existance in our land. I am confident that the talks which we shall conduct in the course of your visit will contribute to the strengthening of the understanding between our two countries.

The return of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel is one of the most miraculous chapters in the history of our people, and in the modern era in general. The reestablishment of our national and political independence has ended a long period of exile, during which the Jewish people was at the mercy of the nations of the world, for good or for evil. The fact that we maintained our links with the Land of Israel for 2,000 years is one of the most unique phenomena in the history of nations. Throughout all these years, there was constant Jewish presence in the Land of Israel, although many a conqueror tried to uproot from it any sign of glorious Jewish statehood in ancient times.

We are a people that knows suffering, a people whose historical experience has left its imprints on its existence and its philosophy. Our survivability has been forged in the wake of the hardships that have accompanied us all along. It is the hope for redemption and for the renewal of Jewish statehood in our land that awakens those great forces within us which guarantee our existence and our achievements. The Jewish people is wont to retain and pass on its history from generation to generation via a well-developed collective memory, and to esteem the value of tradition. This is the real meaning of national existence. It is inconceivable for us to deny the past — however glorious or horrid it may be — because that is the safe road towards the loss of national identity. And yet, we are not prisoners of the past; we remember it and recall it out of belief in a better future.

This state was established 36 years ago out of the ashes of millions of Jews who were annihilated by the Nazi monster. During the Holocaust, those millions of people who were intended — and wished — to come here, to settle our land, and to constitute the backbone and the bulk of the living organism of the state, were annihilated. They were a public devoted in their hearts and minds to the Zionist idea, and among them was a multitude of powerful, enthusiastic youth.

Had those millions — and the descendants who would have been born to them — come to Israel, we would now be a state numbering 8-10 million, at the height of its power, in all respects. They never arrived, because they were annihilated; and to this day, we walk in the land of the living like a body alive, but with amputated limbs. We feel their absence in each and every step: In the army, in industry, in science and in culture. In their absence, we continue to build a people from survivors, and from those of our people who came here after the establishment of the state, from countries which Hitler's army did not reach.

This is a deep, painful wound which cannot be disregarded, and one must be on guard against anything which is liable to reopen it.

The 36 years of our state's existence have not been a story of peace and tranquillity, in which to rebuild our people and our homeland. Our neighbors did not agree to the sovereign existence of the State of Israel in the Middle East. Time after time we were forced to fight in the battlefield to protect the existence and the security of our nation.

After supreme efforts and numerous victims, we have now reached a state of relative stability along our borders. We have signed agreements with two of our neighboring countries: Egypt and Lebanon. Peace with Egypt endures — although the Egyptian Government does not respond to our proposals to deepen and widen it, so that it may turn into a stable foundation upon which it would be possible to base peace settlements with the rest of our neighbors. We, for our part, call on Egypt to strengthen its mutual relations with Israel; and we recommend that all those who maintain friendly relations with both countries exert their influence for the promotion of this same goal and for the sake of the future and welfare of this region.

Lebanon is the focus of international efforts to bring about a solution that would enable the restoration of its full sovereignty, and the removal of all foreign forces from its territory. We support these efforts, and are deeply involved in them, because our policy — carried out in full cooperation with the United States — is to ensure the security of our common border with Lebanon in a way that will permit the withdrawal of our forces; and the way will be open for the establishment of peaceful relations between the two countries.

The aspiration for peace is deeply engrained in our national and Jewish consciousness. We welcome any help that could bring us closer to this objective. We believe that peace together with security is an attainable goal, and that with perseverance, patience, and greater understanding, it will turn into a reality in this region.

Mr Chancellor, distinguisiied guests,

The ties between our two countries are, felicitously, close in many spheres. We are interested in continuing to build closer relations in the economic and scientific realms, and in the intensification of political dialogue. It is extremely important that the German people and its leaders do not forget the past; but it is also important that they act — in the present and in the future — to learn first hand of our way of life, our concerns, and our desire for peace and security. Greater understanding will lead to greater consideration, and to greater closeness and friendship.

Allow me to raise a toast to the president of the Federal Republic, to Mrs Kohl, to you, and to the understanding and friendship between our two countries.

Second Kohl-Shamir Meeting

TA251129 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Visiting West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl began his second day in Israel with another round of talks with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. He then went on to the Knesset and later laid a wreath at Theodor Herzl's tomb. With details on the second Kohl-Shamir meeting, political reporter David Essing:

Prime Minister Shamir told Chancellor Kohl that the Camp David process was the only road to Middle East peace. Shamir was replying to the chancellor's statement in Jerusalem last night. The West German leader had come out in support of the Venice declaration, the Reagan proposal and the Fes plan, which are all rejected by Jerusalem. However, Israeli officials say that Prime Minister Shamir has no intention of quarrelling with Chancellor Kohl over the issue.

Today's talks were again described as frank and friendly. The Shamir-Kohl meeting lasted an hour and a half and the Middle East was on the agenda.

The prime minister repeated that Saudi Arabia was not a moderate state when it comes to Israel. However, the question of possible German arms to Saudi Arabia was not raised. Israeli sources believe that the Federal Republic has still to take its decision and is aware of how sensitive the arms deal is in Israel. Shamir did most of the talking this morning, explaining Israel's stand. Lebanon was not discussed, but Jordan and the Iran-Iraq war were.

The two leaders ran out of time, so they will meet again this evening to continue their discussion. And also at the prime minister's office, while the Kohl-Shamir meeting was going on, the Israel-German officials held another working session.

No Results From Arens-Defense Workers Talks

TA241632 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Defense Minister Arens's meeting with Defense Ministry workers and representatives of the clerk's union ended without any results. As a result, the workers will continue their sanctions. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the defense minister admitted that he cannot offer the employees benefits and payments; he again suggested they resort to arbitration.

This morning, the Defense Ministry issued an announcement stating that last night the defense minister met with the prime minister and finance minister, and agreed in principle that anything promised the Foreign Ministry employees will also be given to the Defense Ministry. However, the Defense Ministry workers checked and found that promise is vague, and therefore presented Minister Arens with a series of demands. He promised to meet with the finance minister again and give them a reply soon.

TAMI Leader Denies Coalition Contacts With Labor

TA240734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Shalom Qital telephone interview with TAMI leader MK Aharon Abu-Hatzera — live]

[Excerpt] [Qital] I have in front of me a report by our party affairs correspondent, Amnon Nadav. I will read it to you and ask you to comment. The Labor Party is inclined to take a positive view of the request made by TAMI leaders to allocate key positions in the Histadrut and its holding company to them if TAMI quits the government and sets up a coalition with the Alignment. Our party affairs correspondent reports that the request was made by Minister Aharon Uzan in talks with Labor Party leaders 2 months ago. Since then debates have been underway on this issue at the top echelon of the party, the last of which was held last Saturday night when Shim'on Peres, Hayim Bar-Lev, Yitzhaq Rabin, Yeruham Meshel and Dani Rosolio discussed the legal and organizational aspects of this request. Our correspondent points out that the leak of this report was a signal to TAMI on the eve of the no confidence vote in the Knesset tomorrow. What do you say about this?

[Abu-Hatzera] I want to tell you that I heard this report on television last night, just as everybody else did, although I received a telephone call some 30 minutes or an hour earlier to get my comments. I want to tell you, now that I have looked into the matter, that I am authorized to announce that we did not hold any talks or discussions whatsoever on this issue in the last few months.

What did occur — hence the confusion and opportunity seized by somebody — is the following: Minister Aharon Uzan is the president of the Sephardic Federation and, in this capacity, he appealed 2 years ago, 1 and 1/2 years ago, 1 year ago, 2 months ago, and at every possible occasion to the Histadrut leadership. It is no secret that the management of the Hapo'alim Bank and the Histadrut's Hevrat Ha'ovdim holding company and all the nice and important things in our country are very closed and rather exclusive forums of certain people. It is no secret that the Labor Party rules them — it is no secret.

I believe that the Labor Party would very much like to make an opening to the Sephardic sects by also offering them senior positions, something it has never done. If the Labor Party discussed this matter — and this came as a surprise to me just as to everybody else — I had no idea about it. If the Labor Party discussed the possibility of hiring educated young Sephardics for senior positions in the Histadrut management, then it was about time it did that, and I am very glad. However, this is in no way related to negotiations on this or another coalition.

In our relations with the government, we proceed according to the facts and reality. As long as the government deals correctly with us, we are with it. When we reach the conclusion that we can no longer be partners due to this or other conditions, we will quit. However, there is no connection whatsoever.

Let me simply illuminate the issue from the political point of view: Let us assume that TAMI did quit or topple the govern-

ment. Could it possibly set up a government with the Alignment on its own? Therefore, all this talk is mere speculation. Moreover, I will tell you that the internal fighting within the Histadrut and the Labor Party has produced a scoop.

[Qital] Mr Abu-Hatzera, are you considering a return to the government?

[Abu-Hatzera] No, sir.

TAMI To Vote Against No Confidence Motion in Knesset

TA250945 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] TAMI will not withdraw from the coalition and will vote against the no confidence motions submitted in the Knesset against the government. This was announced by TAMI MK Aharon Abu-Hatzera at the end of a meeting between TAMI leaders with the finance minister. Our correspondent reports that at the meeting it was agreed to start updating the eroded allowances [for the needy] as of April. Changes will also be made in the income tax brackets; two new tax brackets, 20 and 30 percent, will be introduced. At the same time, the income limit will be increased to between 30,000 and 35,000 shekels, instead of the current 15,000. It was further agreed at the meeting that a bill on minimum wages will soon be submitted to the Knesset.

MK Aharon Abu-Hatzera said that the amount of money involved in this agreement is 5 billion shekels. This sum will be collected by the Finance Ministry through new taxes. He mentioned that, among other things, the Finance Ministry will cancel the law of taxation under inflationary conditions and will thus increase tax collections from self-employed people and from companies.

Finance Ministry: No Pact Reached With TAMI

TA251020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The meeting between Kohen-Orgad and the TAMI leaders ended a few minutes before the beginning of the Knesset session. The Finance Ministry's spokesman told our correspondent Me'ir Einstein that no agreements have been reached and that it was only decided to continue the deliberations. The TAMI leaders did not promise anything regarding their vote on the no confidence motions and the TAMI council is now meeting to decide how TAMI will vote. At the same time, TAMI's Ben-Tziyon Rubin, deputy labor and social welfare minister, had said earlier that his faction will probably vote with the coalition against the no confidence motions.

Liberal Knesset Members Leaving Likud

TA251022 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Knesset Members Yitzhaq Berman and Dror Zeigerman have announced they will not run on the Likud list in the next Knesset elections. The pair told our correspondent Arye Golan that they were working to establish a liberal center for the next elections. They deny the rumors that they are conducting negotiations with the Likud to guarantee their places on the Likud list for the next Knesset. MK Berman has warned Likud faction Chairman Roni Milo that if he does not deny those rumors, he will vote against the government today.

Peres Submits No Confidence Motion in Knesset

TA251042 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] A short while ago Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres declared from the Knesset podium that the entire government should pay the price for the economy's fall. He thus began listing his reasons for the no confidence motion he submitted against the government. He said that the entire country is today caught between a social volcano and an economic abyss. The government, Peres said, harms social justice and the value of labor. It wastes resources and damages the savings of the residents. In the course of its 7 years in power, inflation has increased from 30 to 300 percent.

Peres asked the prime minister if he had visited the Negev settlements and seen uprooted orchards and neglected hothouses. He also asked Mr Shamir what his reply should be to a Rogozin plant salaried worker who was employed for 22 years, has seven children, and is still being dismissed.

Mr Peres said that the government split the population into those who get increasingly richer and those who get increasingly poorer. You should face the ruling of the nation, Peres said.

If the Alignment assumes power, Peres promised, we will return to a regime of work and not of easy profits. We will decrease the expenditures in the territories, reach security settlement in Lebanon, and bring the IDF home. The Alignment will also decrease the size of the government and will guarantee minimum wages to workers.

Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that Peres's remarks were constantly interrupted by harsh verbal exchanges between opposition and coalition members. Cabinet members also took part. At the beginning of the session Prime Minister Shamir and Ministers David Levi, Kohen-Orgad, and Moshe Nisim consulted on the negotiations with TAMI.

Civilian Administration Opposes West Bank Elections

TA241145 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Jan 84 p 3

[Report by West Bank correspondent Tzvi Bar'el]

[Text] The civilian administration is against holding elections for the Jewish councils in the West Bank for fear that the Arab councils might also demand to hold elections. The civilian administration, and in the past the military government, have been delaying these elections for about 8 years.

Elections for the Jewish councils were first postponed at the time

elections were held in Israel. The reason given then was that not all the 13 councils had ended their 4-year term. However, the same law applying at that time is still in effect — the demand of the 25 Arab councils in the West Bank to hold elections [sentence as published].

The Qiryat Arba' council will end its term at the beginning of February, and this explanation will not hold any more. In addition, inhabitants of Qiryat Arba' are collecting signatures for a petition calling for legal elections. Some of the inhabitants told *HA'ARETZ* that it was time to replace the group that is running the place, because it does not see to the development of the town and the welfare of the inhabitants. On the other hand, it has been learned that within the council itself there is resistance to holding elections at present.

Sources in the civilian administration said that there is no intention to hold elections for the Arab councils for fear that some of the elected members and heads might be PLO supporters. They prefer not to hold elections for the Jewish councils to preclude such a pretext for this demand.

In light of this, the above-mentioned sources intend to launch an information campaign among inhabitants of Qiryat Arba' to convince them not to hold elections at present.

The Dura town council has obtained an order nisi against the civilian administration, in which the latter is requested to explain the reason for not holding elections in the town. The civilian administration has not yet answered the order nisi.

Government Informed in Advance of Moroccan Speech

TA251047 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 Jan 84 p 1

[Report from Paris by Arnon Yafe]

[Text] Moroccan King Hassan II apparently informed Israel in advance that the accusation he made in his speech about the "Zionist secret services" being responsible for the incitement of riots in his country was made because of political pressure and did not indicate any disruption in his covert ties with Israel. We were told this by a Moroccan source in Paris, who pointed out that Hassan II had passed this message on to Israelis "through the usual channels, in order to soothe them." However, the Jewish-Moroccan organization Identity and Ideology has protested to the Moroccan deputy prime minister at the use of this groundless, demagogic accusation, which fans hatred and does not serve peace.

Reportage on Lebanon Incidents, Attacks

Religious Involvement Increases

TA220657 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Last night an RPG was fired at an IDF position near Ansar village in southern Lebanon. There were no casualties and the position's personnel returned fire. Our correspondent points out that this was the 11th attack over the past 2 weeks in the strip of Muslim villages east of Tyre. In that area, it is estimated that the influence of the extremist clergymen is increasing. Hayim Hecht reports:

[Begin Hecht recording] The Shi'ite clergy are gradually taking over all spheres of life in southern Lebanon. This is the evaluation of UNIFIL officers who have been familiar with the lifestyles in these villages for 5 years. Over the past few weeks, several civilian leaders have been pushed aside and those who wear the robes have taken responsibility for such fields as education, commerce, highways and, of course, relations with the IDF. On this issue, the Khomeyniite clergymen are not moderating their remarks, and their incitement against the State of Israel is overt and hardhitting. The four attempts at attack that occurred yesterday in the Shi'ite strip east of Tyre were all very close to the villages, and there is no doubt that the perpetrators of the attacks, even if they came from outside the area, were helped by the local population.

An IDF soldier was slightly wounded near Tibnin when automatic fire was directed at an IDF position from a passing car. The car's passengers also threw a hand grenade. Three km north of Jwayya fire was directed at an IDF post. Last night an RPG was fired at an IDF position near Ansar village, and a patrol of Netherlands UNIFIL soldiers discovered a side charge weighing 5 kg south of Tyre. These attacks did not result in any casualties. Let us point out that the attacks we mentioned were all very close to the Litani River line, some of them 6 km from the Galilee panhandle. Even those in the IDF who are demanding a rapid deployment south of the Litani River line must be very worried, because this area, more than any other, is essential to the security of the Galilee settlements. [end recording]

Bomb Defused in South

TA241412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] A bomb was discovered this morning north of the village of Ansariyah in southern Lebanon, and was dismantled without causing damage. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the bomb weighed approximately 20 kg and was to have been activated with an electric cable. But IDF bomb disposal experts detonated it safely. Another bomb was discovered this morning near Ar-Rayhan in the central sector of Lebanon.

Patrols Attacked in South

TA241637 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] There were two attempts to attack IDF soldiers near the village of 'Aramta in the central sector of southern Lebanon today. There were no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that fire was directed from ambush east of the village toward an IDF patrol. The soldiers returned the fire and began searching the area. A side charge was activated south of the village when an IDF convoy was travelling in the area, but as said, our forces did not sustain any casualties.

Patrol Attacked Near An-Nabatiyah

TA241816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] An IDF patrol was attacked this evening northeast of An-Nabatiyah. No one was hurt. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that an RPG was directed at the patrol from ambush. The soldiers returned fire and began a search.

Patrol Attacked in Nabulus

TA250837 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0725 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown last night at an IDF foot patrol in the center of Nabulus. There were no casualties or damage. The security forces conducted searches in the area.

Lebanon's Saqr Holds Jerusalem News Conference

TA231744 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1720 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Jerusalem, 23 Jan (ITIM) — "If the United States and Israel leave Lebanon, the result will be a catastrophe." This was stated today by Etienne Saqr ("Abu Arz"), head of the "Guardians of the Cedars" movement in Lebanon in a news conference in Jerusalem.

Saqr arrived in Israel for a series of meetings, including one with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. According to him he arrived in Israel in order to explain to Israeli representatives "the fragile situation in Lebanon." Asked whether his visit was carried out with the consent of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, he answered: "I am a representative of a party in a democratic country and have a full right to be here, all the more so, as this is not my first visit."

The leader of this right-wing organization thanked the Israeli people and Israeli Government for preventing the entry of the Druze into the Christian town of Dayr al-Qamar, defining this gesture by Israel as "a Christmas gift for the new year." He praised Israel's commitment to moral values, pointing to Israel's care for its soldiers as manifest in its recent agreement to exchange thousands of captive terrorists in return for six Israeli prisoners held by the PLO.

Saqr views Syria as the source of evil in Lebanon. It is Syria which conducts from its territory the terrorist activities against Lebanon, Israel, the United States, France, and others. Syria, according to him, is the major and perhaps also the last obstacle to peace and security to the regional peoples.

He described the situation in Beirut as most difficult, both from the political and economic points of view. "We are tired of the war," he declared, emphasizing that 95 percent of the Lebanese residents, Christians, Muslims, Shi'ites and Druze alike, want to finally end the bloodshed and reach peace.

Asked what the "Guardians of the Cedars" intend to do in southern Lebanon after Sa'd Haddad's death, the organization's leader said that his militia fighters in this region who include Shi'ites and Druze as well as Christians, have joined Haddad's forces. "We think it is better if there is one army and not a number of armies in southern Lebanon," he said.

Terrorists Reported Returning to Al-Biqa'

TA250834 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Jan 84 pp 1, 2

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] Israel Defence Forces officers yesterday stressed that although, in the past month or so, there have been several incidents in the eastern sector — such as the planting of mines or roadside bombs — these were apparently the work of local villagers, and not terrorists.

But, they added, in recent weeks, there has been a noted increase in the number of terrorists moving from northern Lebanon to the Al-Biqa' valley. Many are apparently members of the Abu Musa splinter faction of the PLO, who left the Al-Biqa' for the south during the revolt against Yasir 'Arafat, and who are now returning.

"The terrorists arrived in dozens of private cars, some sitting on the trunks and hoods, shooting in the air," an Israel Defence Forces officer said.

The quiet on the eastern front has contributed to a near friendly coexistence between Israeli and Syrian troops. "Let's meet in the wadi and have some coffee," suggests one Abu Da'ud, a Syrian soldier.

"My commander won't let me," apologizes "Abu Sha'ul," an Israeli soldier. This dialogue, reminiscent of a Hollywood movie, is now a daily occurrence on Lebanon's eastern front, as it was observed yesterday at an IDF position located 200 metres from a Syrian position across no-man's-land, near Yanta village.

The IDF's powerful telescope picks out three Syrian soldiers on the ridge opposite. One of them held a rifle, the second was wearing a yellow bathrobe, and the third, Abu Da'ud, invited the Israeli troops for coffee. The Israeli "Abu Sha'ul," whose real name is Sha'ul Ben-Dov of Kibbutz Ramat Rahel in Jerusalem, replied that "The main thing is that there be peace."

Another Syrian soldier could be seen on the ridge. He has been given the nickname "Dreamer," because he spends his time raising pigeons.

'Hundreds' of Terrorists Reported

TA250950 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Let us now go over to Lebanon, to the eastern sector, to the line separating the IDF from the Syrian Army. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that although hundreds of terrorists affiliated with Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] have moved lately from northern Lebanon to the Al-Biqa' region, there has been a considerable decline in recent months in the number of terrorist acts against our forces.

[Begin recording] Contrary to the western and eastern sectors of Lebanon, where the terrorists try to attack IDF forces almost daily, total quiet prevails in the eastern sector and only four terrorist acts have been recorded there in recent months. IDF officers say those involved in these aqts were apparently local residents who planted side charges and mines near the village of Jubb Jannin, 'Ammiq and Al-Qir'awn. However, we should emphasize immediately that the population in this region, made up mainly of Druze and Christians, is leading regular life alongside the IDF forces present in the area.

IDF observations of the Syrian lines indicate that many terrorists are present in the Syrian camps and in the villages seized by the Syrians and the terrorists. Many of the anti-'Arafat rebels are returning to the Lebanese Al-Biqa' after having ended their mission in northern Lebanon, particularly in the Tripoli area. The terrorists, who are traveling openly in Lebanese cars, are returning to their bases, firing in the air and shouting slogans in favor of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and Al-Asad and against Israel. The IDF is allowing Lebanese civilians to move from the Syrina-controlled area to the IDF-controlled area especially through the Jubb Jannin border crossing point. Only rarely does the IDF have to impose a curfew in the villages or to conduct searches in houses. This is done only after terrorist attempts or provocations against our soldiers in this sector. [end recording]

Zaire President Expected To Ask for More Aid

TA220832 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jan 84 pp 1,2

[Text] Kinshasa, President Mobutu Sese Seko is expected to ask visiting President Hayim Herzog for an increase and speeding up of Israeli military aid to his country during their meeting today, according to sources in Zaire.

Israel has two military units in Zaire —one training the presidential brigade in the Kinshasa area and the other training the Kamaniola Division, in the country's troubled Shaba province.

Herzog on Friday reviewed the presidential brigade. On Thursday, he spent a day with the Israeli mission in Shaba.

According to the commander of Zaire's presidential brigade, Israel is also providing training for the president's bodyguards and intelligence agents.

A diplomatic reception for Herzog in Kinshasa on Friday was boycotted by representatives of states who have no relations with Israel. The Egyptian ambassador to Zaire attended the reception.

According to sources in Zaire, Israel has supplied the Zaire Army with light weapons, recoilless guns, half-tracks, artillery and trucks.

The official ZAIRE NEWS AGENCY yesterday reacted strongly to what it said was a "virulent and hysterical campaign" unleashed in some Arab nations over the Herzog visit.

The agency said Zaire "says no to the unacceptable blackmail and arrogance of the nouveaux riches stuffed with petrodollars." While it saw the Arab reaction to the visit as in some ways "natural" it said Zaire was astonished to see "progressive" Arab countries call for a holy war against Zaire.

It noted that the Arab nations lacked effective unity for the Palestinian cause while Mobutu, despite excellent relations with Israel, had pointed out in front of Herzog the inalienable right of the Palestinians to an independent, sovereign state.

It attacked the "anachronistic pretensions" of certain Arab regimes which thought they could still dictate policy to African nations.

Herzog is due today to go to Mobutu's native village of Gbadolite, where an Israeli company is running an agricultural scheme.

Tomorrow, Herzog leaves for Liberia.

Spokesman Denies Involvement in Angola

TA241321 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman today totally denied a foreign newspaper report on so-called Israeli intervention in the attempt to topple the regime in Angola. The spokesman noted that the report is totally unfounded.

Two Suspects Held in Grunzweig Murder

TA201219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The police and security forces have detained a suspect in the murder of Emil Grunzweig [killed about a year ago, during demonstrations for and against the war in Lebanon near the prime minister's office in Jerusalem], and his name is (Yona Abrushmy), aged 28, a resident of Neve Ya'aqob. The police also arrested another suspect who is being held on charges that he sold the lethal hand grenade to (Yona Abrushmy). He is David Shemtov, aged 20, from Jerusalem.

In a special news conference held today by the interior and police affairs minister, and Police Commissioner Arye Ivtzan, it was reported that charges on counts of murdering Emil Grunzweig a year ago will be filed against the two.

Inspector General Arye Ivtzan reported that the police have no proof that any special body, or other people, were accomplices. As for the motive, the police inspector general said that evidently there was a personal motive against the background of the suspect's family history, which suffered casualties during the war. The police commissioner reported that the special investigating team used private investigators, fed the computer with data on 180,000 people, and interrogated 577 people over the past year. He also noted that the public pressure that was applied to the police personnel was extremely heavy, counterproductive, and interfered with the work. He called for public conclusions to be reached as a consequence.

Daylight Saving Time To Be Introduced in 1984

TA231412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Summer time will be implemented this year, Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg informed the coalition executive. Chairman of the coalition, Agudat Yisra'el's Avraham Shapira, asked the minister to reconsider the decision, but Dr Burg said that although he does not totally support it, it is clear to him that daylight saving time should be implemented at least on a trial basis because there is a Knesset majority to legislate summer time unless the minister implements this first.

Ghana's Rawlings Addresses OAU Defense Commission

AB242050 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight-Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, has opened the eighth session of the OAU Defense Commission in Accra with a reminder that the best defense for Africa is economic independence and an end to neocolonialism.

Military defenses cannot free us from the pressures imposed on us by outside interests for commercial, strategic, and political reasons, he said, adding we must make a massive effort especially in food production if we are to break out from the cycle of dependence. This will not be an easy task, but unless we can do it, we shall have no meaningful security. Chairman Rawlings identified racist South Africa's challenge to Africa's independence as a grave one. He said South Africa's state of combat readiness is due mainly to collaboration and assistance from powerful Western states. He said even more irresponsible is the development of nuclear capability by South Africa, obviously with external assistance. He declared: We should not be deterred by this. History is on our side. There are no people whose fight for freedom has been permanently frustrated by superior power. We have seen it in Algeria, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola, and Kenya. We were witnesses to it in Vietnam. We believe the heroism exhibited in these struggles for freedom remains a shinning example and that there is strength and resolve to meet South Africa's challenge.

Chairman Rawlings warned, however, that Africa must force the pace and not merely believe in a miserable historical solution. He advised the delegates to give priority to increase material and military assistance to the liberation movements and greater support and solidarity with the Frontline States. Ghana, in spite of its economic condition, is ready to increase substantially its contribution to the liberation committee, apart from bilateral assistance offered regularly to the liberation movements. The chairman of the PNDC declared Ghana's readiness to allow the creation of a volunteer force for service in Angola and Mozambique, if required. The least African governments can do is to allow the formation of such forces, he said, and urged all members of the OAU to embrace this idea. He said a volunteer liberation force will be a step in the realization of continental security, and this process can go on while we debate the protocol for an OAU defense force. The continent should also begin to implement the concept of regional security systems through a program of joint military exercises such as the one recently carried out between Ghana and Upper Volta. We should also develop uniform military training and offer opportunities to each other to train in our various military institutions.

He said Ghana will be willing to offer the facilities for an OAU defense college as part of an OAU defense force. Flight-Lt Rawlings drew attention to unity upon which the success of the efforts in collective self-defense will depend. We must endeavor not to dissipate our energies and modest resources on internal and destructive tensions between member states. These occasions provide opportunity for meddlesome outsiders to break our solidarity and displace our attention from our priorities, he said. He expressed the hope that a formal and final agreement will be reached at this session on the draft protocol for the OAU defense force. This would set in motion the final processes for the creation of an agreed machinery for the collective security of the continent. The chairman called for unity, for creative and productive action for the welfare of the peoples of the continent. He regretted the situation whereby the hatred of the common and clearly defined enemy, rather than a common positive aim, serves a greater unifying factor in Africa. He observed that the oppression of the people of Azania is an issue that unites the member states of the OAU and wondered whether the defeat of racist South Africa should see the further disintegration of Africa's fragile unity.

The chairman also called for an examination of the role of the armed forces in African countries. He asked: How far have our militaries progressed away from their role laid down in colonial time as defenders and tools of the oppressors of the common people? To what extent have they become an integral part of the communities and societies in which they live? He said the simple conception of the role of the soldier as a defender of a country's territorial integrity means that the soldier sees his country's neighbors as enemies. He said unless our troops have a consciousness of their roles beyond mere military expertise and unless they understand what and whom they are defending, then they are simply defending the exploitation of our people rather than helping to ensure true economic justice.

UN Head Offers To Assist in Solving Chad Problem

AB241715 Lagos NAN in English 1525 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 24 (NAN) — UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in Lagos today that the UN was prepared to assist in finding a solution to the Chadian problem if the OAU wished. Speaking at the opening of talks with officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr Perez said that under the UN Charter, regional organizations should play their roles first before the UN could intervene.

Mr Perez further said that he had sent a letter to the president of the Security Council to convene a conference on the Middle East with the 15 members of the Council and interested parties including Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization in attendance. He however said that he had not received any response to the letter which was written at the request of the General Assembly.

Earlier, the two sides had reviewed the situation in Namibia, Western Sahara and UN efforts in global negotiations.

The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, expressed satisfaction with the operation of the United Nations development programme and called for an increase in its activities in the country.

The UN secretary general [words indistinct] tour drought affected areas of Borno.

ALGERIA

Spanish Foreign Minister Visits for Talks

Arrival in Algiers

LD241453 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Mr Fernando Moran, Spanish minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Algiers today. He was received by Mr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs.

The Spanish minister explained that his visit to Algeria will allow him to meet his Algerian counterpart and exchange opinions concerning the international and regional situations, in addition to studying bilateral relations.

Meeting With Ibrahimi

LD242118 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Today, the Spanish minister of foreign affairs — who will be going to Rabat on Thursday — paid a visit to Algiers. The Spanish Government is attentively watching the situation in North Africa, where Islamic fundamentalism — which became manifest in the recent disturbances in Tunisia and Morocco — could be Europe's biggest problem, according to a statement by Fernando Moran himself.

Miguel Angel Ajea of the EFE agency now reports from the Algerian capital on Fernando Moran's lightning visit to Algiers:

In February, meetings of the Spanish and Algerian experts studying the subject of gas will precede other political meetings aimed at extending the technical negotiations to an overall economic and political framework. This was the outcome of today's busy 4-hour working meeting between the Spanish and Algerian foreign ministers in the Algerian capital.

Both Moran and Taleb Ibrahimi downplayed the state of relations between the two countries and decided to return to the central idea that Spanish deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra brought with him last March; namely, to globalize relations and at the same time arrive at an economic and political detente.

Moran completely dismissed fears voiced in the Spanish press to the effect that Algeria would force an acceleration of the negotiations by cutting off gas supplies to our country. In short, according to the Spanish foreign minister, the situation has notably improved, and the politicians will give the necessary push to bring the respective positions of the technical experts closer together.

Here is what Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran said in Algiers:

[Begin recording] [Moran] We exchanged points of view on the situation in the region and on the world situation. Then we tackled bilateral problems, including the problem of gas, which I believe can now be said to have more favorable prospects.

[Unidentified speaker] What news do you have on the subject of gas?

[Moran] There are going to be further technical meetings followed by political meetings.

[Unidentified speaker] Have you set a date for these meetings?

[Moran] In principle, a number of meetings have been arranged for February. Then there will political meetings at the ministerial level in March or April — and not only on the subject of gas, but on economic and political relations between the two countries. [end recording]

Here is the statement by Algerian Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi:

[Begin Taleb Ibrahimi recording: in French fading to Spanish translation] I believe that my talks with my counterpart Moran fall within the framework of previous decisions on economic cooperation and bringing our political positions closer. I believe that the talks were positive, and we decided to hold a political meeting, which is to follow another meeting of experts to determine the conditions and duration of a transitory period in the gas agreement between the two countries.

The political meeting will look to making our relations comprehensive, because the subject of gas is not the only issue in relations between the two countries: We also have commercial and political relations having to do with the region, the Mediterranean, and the Arab world — all of which are aspects that concern the two countries. [end recording]

Further on Talks

LD251107 Algiers APS in English 1015 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Algiers, 25/1/84 (APS) — Algerian-Spanish talks were held yesterday to examine matters relating to the region and the implementation of the Algerian-Spanish agreement.

The session co-chaired by Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and his Spanish counterpart Fernando Moran Lopez was also attended by Energy and Petrochemical Minister Belkacem Nabi. The two parties decided to pursue discussions on gas at the political and technical level and to hold during the first term of this year meetings between them.

Gabonese National Assembly President Visits

LD241132 Algiers APS in English 1009 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Algiers, 24/1/84 (APS) — Mr Augustin Boumah, acting president of the African Parliaments Union and president of the Gabonese National Assembly, arrived yesterday in Algiers for a working visit.

In a short declaration to the press, Mr Augustin Boumah indicated that his visit to Algeria comes within the framework of the preparation of the 7th assembly of the African Parliaments Union, due to be held shortly in Algiers.

Received by Assembly Official
LD251117 Algiers APS in English 1010 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Algiers, 25/1/84 (APS) — Mr Rabah Bitat, Politburo member and president of the People's National Assembly (APN), audienced yesterday Mr Augustin Boumah, president of the Gabonese Assembly and acting president of the African Parliaments Union, who is paying a working visit to Algeria in the frame of the works preparatory to the holding of the 7th conference of the African Parliaments Union, from 17 to 22 March 1984.

During the talk, the two presidents examined different aspects of the development of the next conference, notably regarding points on the agenda.

African parliamentarians who will meet in Algiers in March will examine a certain number of political questions, including problems of decolonization in certain African regions, the situation in the Middle East, and the contribution of African parliaments to the implementation of OAU resolutions on the agenda of the next conference. There will also be the examination of economic questions, notably demographic problems and the malnutrition which is seriously affecting African countries.

ALGERIA

Newly Appointed Government Ministers Announced
LD222339 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Presidential statement]

[Text] Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and a former prime minister, has been appointed a minister of state at the presidency of the republic.

Colonel Abdallah Belhouchet, member of the Political Bureau, was appointed a deputy minister of defense and inspector general of the National People's Army.

In accordance with the constitution — particularly Articles 111 and 113, paragraph 7 — the president of the republic and secretary general of the National Liberation Front [FLN] party has formed the new government.

Forming the new government, which follows the work of the Fifth FLN Party Congress and includes new structures, comes in light of the new experiment, which takes into consideration the needs of development and the criteria of effectiveness and control of management and results.

In accordance with the directives of the Fifth FLN Party Congress, the new government structure seeks to strengthen government harmony and coordination among the sections inside a single division. It also seeks to develop the economic integration, to define the use of external revenues and to strengthen some structures in accordance with the aims and priorities laid down for economic and social policy.

On the other hand, forming new structures is a way to improve the effectiveness of management of the national economy and to further the decentralization policy within an organized and tight framework. It also seeks to organize the promotion of human energies by a comprehensive harmony of the education system to make it serve the needs of economy today and in the future.

Deputy prime ministers have been appointed for some ministries to give greater drive and coordination to some important activities under the control of the ministers concerned. The deputy ministers are considered members of the government, and in this capacity they are responsible to the head of state.

Here is a list of the members of the government:

Prime Minister: Abdelhamid Brahimi
Foreign Affairs Minister: Ahmed Taleb Brahimi
Minister of Interior and Local Groups: M'hamed Yala
Finance Minister: Boualem Benhamouda
Justice Minister: Boualem Baki
Minister of Agriculture and Maritime Fishing: Kasdi Merbah
Minister of Information: Bachir Rouis
Minister of PTT: Boualem Bessaih
Minister of Transport: Salah Goudjil
Minister of Energy and Petrochemical Industries: Belkacem Nabi
Minister of Heavy Industry: Selim Saadi

Minister of Light Industries: Zitouni Messaoudi
Minister of Irrigation, Environment and Forestry: Mohamed Rouighi
Minister of Trade: Abdelaziz Khellef
Minister of National Education: Mohamed Cherif Kharroubi
Minister of Higher Education: Rafik Abdelhak Brerhi
Minister of Vocational Training and Labor: Mohamed Nabi
Minister of Youth and Sports: Kamel Bouchama
Minister of Public Health: Djamal Houhou
Minister of Social Protection: Z'hor Ounissi
Minister of Veterans: Djelloul Bekhti Nemmiche
Minister of Public Works: Ahmed Benfreha

Minister of Construction, Building and Housing: (Abderrahman Bel'ayyat)

Minister of Religious Affairs: Abderrahmane Chibane
Minister of Culture and Tourism: Abdelmadjid Meziane
Minister of Planning and Urban Planning: Ali Oubouzar
Secretary General of the Government: Mouloud Hamrouche
Deputy Minister for Maritime fishing: Mustapha Benzaza
Deputy Minister for Secondary and Technical Education: Leila Ettayeb
Deputy Minister for Cooperation: Noureddine Harbi
Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade: (Mohamed Abarkat)
Deputy Minister for Mechanical, Electrical and Electronic Industries: Mohamed Said Mazouzi

Deputy Minister for Building Materials: Isly Mohamed Arezki
Deputy Minister for Environment, Forestry: (Issa Abdellawi)
Deputy Minister for Construction: (Abu Bakr Bilqa'i)
Deputy Minister for budget and public property (Mustafa Ben 'Ammar)
Deputy Minister for Sports: (Mohamed as-Salih Bentoure)
Deputy Minister for Chemical and Petrochemical Industries: Hocine el Hadj
Deputy Minister for Labor: ('Ammar 'Azzuz)
Deputy Minister for Tourism: (Zayn Ad-Din Takfali)
Deputy Minister for Urban Planning: Abdelmalk Nourani

MOROCCO

Many Young People Reportedly Still Detained

LD241543 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Isabel Garcia Gil dispatch from Rabat]

[Text] Several hundred young people are still being held in various parts of the country, according to unofficial sources. In Rabat, there are long queues of women still waiting outside the central police station, where they have been for several days, awaiting news of the whereabouts of their children.

In Marrakesh, approximately 1,000 people are reported to have begged the King for a pardon in connection with the events in the city over the last 2 weeks.

Moroccan television last night showed pictures of food stores in Rabat and Casablanca which had been closed down for not observing the official prices. The discontent which fueled the incidents of recent days was also caused because some traders had increased prices on some products.

TUNISIA

Essebsi Meets With PLO's Salah Khalaf

LD241900 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi talked this morning with Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad], member of the PLO Central Committee. They discussed the Palestinian issue and the work and results of the last Islamic conference.

Abu Iyad said the points of view of both parties were identical. He expressed the appreciation of the PLO for Tunisian stances and its support for the Palestinian cause. He also affirmed the commitment of the organization to the PNC and Fes resolutions and its rejection of anything less than these resolutions.

Opposition Appeals for Party-State Separation

LD241353 Kuwait KUNA in English 1150 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis, 24 Jan (KUNA) — A Tunisian opposition party here called today on President Habib Bourguiba to "abandon the chairmanship of the ruling Tunisian Destourian Socialist Party, and separate the organs of the state from the structure of the party so that the head of state may be above any partisan considerations."

The Movement of Social Democrats, which is considered the largest of the Tunisian opposition parties, called in an official press statement for the dissolution of the present Tunisian National Assembly and the "holding of free elections as soon as possible with the participation of all the active forces in the country, and with the sponsorship of a neutral government, to which these forces would agree, and whose task would be confined to guaranteeing the honesty of elections and would end with the conclusion of the elections."

The party in question also called for "the lifting of the state of emergency, the release of all political prisoners, the enabling of all the exiled nationalists to return home, and the consolidation of pluralism by enabling political trends to exist in accordance with the constitution of the country."

The Movement of Social Democrats declared its rejection of the committee established on President Bourguiba's orders to investigate the causes and circumstances of the recent riots in Tunisia, and called for "the formation of a national committee representing all the political and social trends and organizations to investigate comprehensively the causes of the events and their consequences nationwide, in order to pinpoint responsibility."

The Tunisian opposition party also appealed for "an official and exact report of the number of victims of the recent events, as well as their identities and the circumstances of their deaths."

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Spokesman Decries Spanish 'Treachery'

LD250349 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Antonio Cosado interview with Salem Ould Salek, Polisario spokesman in charge of foreign relations and SDAR information minister; live — place not given]

[Text][Casado] Salem Ould Salek is the Polisario's spokesman in charge of foreign relations [and minister of information of the SDAR]. Tonight he attended a dinner with journalists from Spain and abroad at the international press club. He spoke about a number of things, and is now going to speak to us:

Firstly, we shall ask him about a phrase which he has just used and which seemed to us to be especially tough. Mr Salek said: Treachery has been written on the faces of all Spaniards since the Madrid agreements of 1975. We should like to ask you, what does this mean? Is it a threat?

[Ould Salek] Neither the Polisario nor the Government of the SDAR make threats. What we said and repeat today is that Spain owes a very large debt to the Saharan people, and that this debt is not only owed by the Spanish Government, but also by all the peoples of Spain. We thank Spanish public opinion, the

peoples of Spain and the democratic forces in Spain for the support which they have shown for the Saharan cause.

What we mean when we speak about treachery is that our people really feel betrayed for many reasons. Firstly, it was in Madrid that the tripartite agreements were signed, and Spain continues to have a policy which favors Morocco to the detriment of the interests of the Saharan people. Secondly, we are the only Spanish-speaking Arab people, and as such we feel betrayed by Spain, which still has not done anything in the sense of supporting our country, or supporting our people in their demands.

We see how Britain mobilizes the whole of the Commonwealth — all the English-speaking countries — because of the loss of some islands in the Pacific [as heard]. We see what France does, despite the fact that there are many independent French-speaking African countries, and countries of the world, which are French-speaking. On the other hand, we see how Spain does nothing to help the Saharan people to recover its fatherland; its territory. We believe that it is a right which we demand, and it is also a duty of all Spaniards. The Spanish Government ought to respect our sovereignty; our territorial integrity. We have criticized, continue to criticize and will always criticize any Spanish policy in northwest Africa which is carried out to the detriment of the SDAR and the interests of our people.

[Casado] Mr Ould Salek, on this news program and over the past few days the disturbances in Morocco have been reported. My questions is What importance does the factor of the war in the Sahara have in these disturbances?

[Ould Salek] The disturbances which continue to occur in Morocco are the result of the effects of the war on Morocco. The war has destroyed the whole of the Moroccan economy. The war has created a very bad political climate in Morocco for the regime of Hassan II, which is solely responsible for this. The Moroccan people are now refusing to sustain the war by dying in it — a war known in Morocco as the king's war — and by paying a higher and higher cost of living. We believe that for its recovery, for its economic recovery and political stability, Morocco needs peace, and peace demands that Morocco withdraw from the war.

ETHIOPIA

Central Committee Hears Mengistu on Renaming Party

EA241939 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1710 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Speech by Mengistu Haile Mariam to seventh regular session of the COPWE Central Committee on 23 January in Addis Ababa — recorded]

[Excerpts] The COPWE's program, which we are drafting, will be consistently scientific to provide a sound analysis of our present and future, circumstances to enable us accurately to identify the aims and orientation of the revolution and the activities it must carry out.

The party's program will specify the party's aims, objectives, policies and system. Its statutes will specify the party's internal activities, organization, directives, and leadership which will enable it to perform its basic revolutionary tasks. The party's basic organizational programs will reflect the party's position and role in society. The program will be based on general Marxist-Leninist theory as well as on existing realities and, as such, it will reveal the party's nature and the degree of its maturity.

Inasmuch as the party's statute is a fundamental document that concentrates on general regulations and in light of the need to draft detailed procedural directives for application to various organizational activities, membership recruitment procedures, the structures and procedures of basic organizations, the payment and accounting of monthly membership fees and directives and drafts on meetings, the appropriate arrangements have been made.

One of the fundamental tasks on which COPWE concentrates in its efforts to do its ideological and organizational work thoroughly is to set up bodies at every level and strengthen those already established. This work has been going on ever since our organization was first set up. During the first stage preceding the establishment of the party, there were plans to establish 31 bodies at the provincial level. It was found, however, that there was a need for more, so COPWE committees were established in 33 provinces. At the same time 70 COPWE committees were established at the district level and 240 basic organizations were set up in areas and organizations where they were needed.

As we attend this meeting on the eve of the formation of our party and make final preparations, in order to bring our efforts to fruition, the following basic topics have been presented to this Central Committee meeting for debate and [words indistinct] future approval by the party congress: the party's name, emblem, statute, organizational structure and work directive, directives of its basic organizations, directives on membership recruitment, directives for its [word indistinct] and directives on collection and accounting of membership fees.

I would like to dwell on the suggestions made by the Executive Committee about the party's name and emblem. As we have accepted Marxism-Leninism as the directive for our revolution, we must strive to ensure that all our positions are in harmony with this scientific ideology. Accordingly, our party has been named on the basis of our realities and ultimate goal. It is clear that all our planned activities and strategies must accord proper consideration to the stage of history we are living through so that our revolution can progress toward its planned goals. The aim of our efforts is to enhance the workers' political participation, build the economy and apply the socialist principle that says from each according to his ability, to each according to his work, thus creating an atmosphere conducive to the realization of the even more important aim of communism.

For this goal to be realized, the working class must perform its vanguard role. According to Marxism-Leninism the sole instrument to effect the realization of communism is the vanguard leadership of a class party. In order to achieve our goal, we are now establishing a Marxist-Leninist working class vanguard party. We shall work toward effecting this party's role as the vanguard party of the working class combined with its role of promoting the progress of all the working people and ensuring that the working class is paramount. Accordingly, the Executive Committee has proposed that this party which is expected to lead our society along the path of socialist development be named the Workers Party of Ethiopia.

The party's emblem has been designed to bear deep significance without being complicated. The emblem has a five-pointed yellow star with the hammer and sickle inside it: The star signifies solidarity among progressive people, the hammer and sickle represent workers and peasants.

Dear comrades, in spite of the fact that our national efforts are geared toward steering and building our motherland on the correct path of development to give our working people a better life, situations in our region and elsewhere in the world always require particular attention. In this respect, our spirit of proletarian internationalism and the fact that we are strengthening our unity — which we must continue to strengthen further — with the world socialist system are indicative of the favorable aspects of our foreign relations. This particularly applies to the relations we have established with the vanguard socialist country, the USSR, and with the rest of the socialist camp, which have been consolidated through manifest cooperation. We shall continue to strive to develop this cooperation further. Our relations with other progressives and lovers of peace are also being strengthened in an encouraging manner. These factors reflect the favorable aspects of our foreign [word indistinct].

In contrast with this, it is clear that, judging by the plots they are hatching against us and the problems accruing from them, the forces intractably opposed to the unity of our motherland and the upsurge of our revolution are attacking us to divide Ethiopia, bring about bloodshed and weaken us, all this with the aim of bringing about the collapse of Ethiopia. In this, they are acting in concert with other forces that desire the same results.

All the factors manifestly contrary to our interests are increasingly and inevitably interwoven with the anti-peace and anti-people deeds of imperialism. From the very outset, our enemies attacked us, starting with their ideological campaign based on common hearsay and going on to openly taking up arms.

They have constantly changed their methods, but whatever standard they have hoisted, their aims have been very apparent and unchanging. Whether the process has been internal or external, from the right or the left, be it spreading false propaganda or taking up arms — all those who threaten to attack us or strike at us are tied to imperialism by an umbilical cord and must therefore be taken seriously.

Today, in total disregard of the international community's peace cause, the imperialists are arrogantly perpetrating gross acts of destruction. They have intervened in people's internal affairs with the use of military force, stifling the national identity of peoples by using all convenient atrocities, officially escalating the arms race and in general pushing the world toward a holocaust. This is their daily chore. Relevant examples are: the recent shameful aggression perpetrated by the US Government against the people of Grenada; the flagrant campaign of aggression to overturn the Nicaraguan revolution; the atrocities being committed to stifle the struggle for independence in El Salvador; the plots to provoke Cuba; the crime of stirring up turmoil in Central America; the aggression violating humanity being conducted by the South African Government with the support it receives from the whole imperialist pack; the military adventurism being conducted in the Middle East under the pretext of preserving peace and the holocaust being perpetrated against innocent people; and the arrogant deployment of missiles in Europe. These are just a few of the examples that illustrate imperialism's current anti-peace and anti-people nature.

Today the peace call of the international community continually resounds to stem imperialism's race toward the destruction which has overflowed its banks. In this respect we give our sincere support to and will actively support to the best of our abilities the efforts of the USSR, which occupies the vanguard position among the forces struggling for the wellbeing of mankind in defense of the world socialist system and to ensure global peace.

We must also be prepared and armed to ensure that we are not deprived of our own victory, so that our development plans will not disintegrate, so that what was attempted against us yesterday will not be repeated today. We must ensure that what has happened to some budding revolutionary peoples does not happen to us.

All this is good news for our friends and (?bad news) for our enemies. We should therefore realize that this is a time when we will be encouraged by our friends but confronted by our enemies. There is no doubt that our enemies are terrified by the formation of our party, because it will be the focus of the people's new political system and of the future people's republic and because it provides for the organized leadership essential to build socialism. Accordingly, we must be vigilant more than ever before to avoid succumbing to our enemies, who seek our downfall and lose their sleep hatching plots. This means being watchful and stoutly defending ourselves against (?negative) manifestations. When we speak of negative manifestations, we mean not only the threats posed by our enemies, but also failing to do our duty, or doing things that we should not do, thus making things easier for our enemies. Our revolutionary task is to defend ourselves from the threats posed by our enemies from all directions, and our duty is to fulfill our objectives. The main characteristic of our revolution is not to wait and defend when the enemy attacks, but to take the offensive. The all-important revolutionary task is to boost morale, especially the morale of our workers, so as to deny the ideological battlefield to our enemies. So we must properly mobilize the COPWE, government and mass organizations in the struggle and in production, so as to achieve our revolutionary objectives.

It is important not to neglect the building of our defense force, so as to destroy the remnants of imperialist (?mercenaries) and ensure that those working for our downfall think twice before taking any action against us. It must be made clear that one of the main tasks is the implementation of national military service.

Since the formation of our party, our economic development and the defense force cannot been seen as separate from one another. We must struggle in unity and be more vigilant on all fronts than ever before. The formation of the party and the 10th anniversary of our revolution are two great historical achievements. This is a decisive time when we can demonstrate this to the world, and free our beloved motherland from backwardness and make her feared and respected, and we expect a decisive effort from all true citizens and revolutionaries. Revolutionary motherland or death. We will build a pure Marxist-Leninist party, an invulnerable defense, and a strong social economy by our struggle. Thank you.

Further Cuban Troop Reductions Seen Planned

PA241615 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1545 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, 24 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) — Cuba, whose support helped Ethiopia win the Ogaden war against Somalia 6 years ago, plans to reduce its forces in Ethiopia from 10,500 men to less than 3,000 by June, Western diplomats have announced in Addis Ababa.

The diplomats last week told this agency that the Cubans are leaving the country because it is considered highly unlikely that Somalia will attack again.

Reports about the Cubans' movements have been appearing for months in the Western press but, according to the Western diplomats, they now have specific information about a June deadline for the Cubans' withdrawal. The Cuban contingent in Ethiopia is the second largest in Africa, after the one in Angola.

According to the diplomats, their understanding is that all the Cuban troops will withdraw from the regions of Diredawa, Harar, and Jijiga, near the Somali border, where three brigades of tanks or armored vehicles have been stationed for years.

The Western diplomats said that those Cubans who remain in the country will be regrouped about Debre Zeit, close to Addis Ababa, where there is a Cuban base. From here they could serve as guarantors of the security of Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Mariam, in the event of a possible coup against him.

Ethiopia has made no public statement regarding the Cuban troop movement, but Western diplomats said they had received

indirect confirmation from their colleagues in communist bloc embassies that this step was going to be taken.

The Western diplomats were not able to say exactly how many Cuban soldiers have already left the country, but a figure of approximately 4,000 was mentioned.

The diplomats agreed in saying that the majority of those who left were in transit toward Angola, but it was not clear how many of them would remain there, joining the 20,000 Cuban soldiers already in that country, and how many would return to Cuba.

The diplomats said that the decision to reduce the number of Cuban troops was adopted during a visit to Ethiopia last year by Cuban General Batista Santana, who said that he concurred with Mengistu Mariam that a deterrent force was no longer needed.

According to the diplomats, Santana also assured Mengistu Mariam that Cuba and the USSR were very experienced in transporting troops over long distances, so the Cubans could quickly return if needed.

SOMALIA

Foreign Minister Returns, Comments on ICO Summit

EA241615 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Summary] Foreign Minister Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre returned home today after attending the ICO meeting in Casablanca. He told SOMALI NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY reporters at the airport that the meeting discussed several sensitive issues important to the Islamic world and the world at large.

"Laying particular emphasis on the Horn of Africa, the minister said worthy resolutions were adopted regarding the Abyssinian black colonialist regime and the need for its unconditional withdrawal from the occupied territories of the Somali Democratic Republic. He said Abyssinia was also condemned for its misdeeds against the people under its colonial rule. The meeting also agreed to assist Somalia in every way to protect its sovereignty, existence, and dignity."

Mediation Committee Chairman To Meet With Siad Barre

EA241628 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Summary] Leopold Sedar Senghor, chairman of the League of African Socialist Parties, has arrived in Mogadishu where he will hold talks with President Mohamed Siad Barre and other Somali officials.

Sedar Senghor is chairman of the Mediation Committee appointed by the Khartoum meeting of the African Socialist Parties with the task of bringing Somalia, Ethiopia, and Sudan together for direct talks. Somalia has frequently expressed readiness for talks aimed at ending the crisis in the Horn of Africa.

UGANDA

Dissidents Assigned Blame for 'Criminal Actions'

EA242156 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The government has greatly deplored the activities of the dissidents who do not subscribe to parliamentary rule for their murderous actions. In a statement released this evening, the government recalled that in recent weeks, the characteristics of the dissidents who do not subscribe to parliamentary rule have once more been brought into prominence.

On the seventh of this month, 11 workers of the Uganda Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross were kidnapped. Although eight of the victims were released within 2 days, they were nevertheless made to undergo mental sufferance and discomfort.

It will appear that all the dissidents wanted to achieve in this criminal act was some publicity.

The statement went on to say that it had been known for months that Uganda's major donors would assemble in Paris this week to review together with the Uganda Government delegation their efforts of recovery and possibilities of further assistance to Uganda towards that end.

On the eve of the Paris meeting the dissidents, true to their well-known characteristics, decided to unleash their criminal propensities on expatriates in Uganda. Four innocent expatriates were murdered on Sunday. Their only crime, as the dissidents see it, was that these men had come to Uganda to give help not to the government, but to the people of Uganda, to climb out of the (?pond) of despair and poverty.

The murder of these four men is a chilling and telling commentary of the objectives of the leaders of the dissident groups. They have had the temerity to say that they were not responsible for these murders, that they do not operate in the areas of the murders and that the murders were committed by government agents.

The evidence cannot even deceive a child. There is a statement signed by one of the dissident leaders who has a lust to kill, Yoweri Museveni [leader of Uganda Patriotic Movement], dated 1 March 1983, specifically stating that a last warning had been given to all expatriates in Uganda.

The (?pertinent) paragraph of the statement reads: We give sincere advice to serve as a final warning to those following under this category that the sooner they find their exits from Uganda, the better for their families. These are: all members of the diplomatic corps, all members of the charitable institutions, military instructors under the Commonwealth program, and all foreigners who align themselves with Obote's regime.

That statement has never been rescinded or condemned by men like Lule or Binaisa [former president], who enjoy life in countries

not ruled by the gun, but are desirous of gaining office in Uganda by violence and killing.

The murders of last Sunday were undoubtedly planned and executed within the [word indistinct] of the statement of March 1983. It was also in addition executed to embarrass the government delegation at Paris and to discourage expatriate experts to come to Uganda.

The denial by one section of the men who had a lust for violence and killings is so transparent and consistent with their previous acts of violence, when they proudly announced their responsibility for killing of innocent persons.

There is no evidence that these men of violence have changed. Yesterday, representatives of these men of violence accused the Government of Uganda of having carried out abductions of Ugandans in Kenya. The accusations fall squarely in line with all previous acts of dissidents. It was issued, just like in the previous cases, on the eve of an international conference in which Uganda was to be a prominent subject. It is inconceivable that the Government of Uganda should have caused the killing of four expatriates and carried out abductions in Kenya all on the eve of an important meeting at which the image of Uganda would be a vital factor.

The Government of Uganda has not abducted anybody in Kenya and has no intention of doing so.

A protest is being made to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with regards to this matter.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Correction to Composition of New Cabinet

The following correction pertains to the item entitled "Composition of Kolingba's New Cabinet Reported," published in the 24 January Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page S 1, right column, line one:

High Commissioner in Charge of Scientific and Technical Research: Jean-Claude Kazgui.

CHAD

Bardai Blames France, U.S. for 'Sabotaging' OAU Talks

AB232215 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] According to directives received from his French and American masters, the head of the Northern Armed Forces has said no to an African solution, at least, for the mediation efforts of the chairman and secretary general of the OAU. The failure of the attempt to organize a roundtable reconciliation conference to solve the Chadian conflict comes from the implementation of an extra-African plan that is opposed to the one set out by the OAU. It is well known that the imperialists tried in vain to rally some African states to adhere to their way of solving the Chadian crisis.

It is precisely by some tactical design that French imperialism through diverse ways advised the FAN to hypocritically declare that they favor a solution under the auspices of African unity. In fact, the French technical advisers, as well as the leadership, as shown by their preparation for the national reconciliation conference, have always feared a genuinely African solution to the Chadian conflict. Indeed, how can one expect today the same France which sabotaged the Lagos Accords for reasons well known to everybody to sit by quietly and see the same thing being accomplished?

Indeed, while everybody was expecting, on the first date of 21 December 1983, to see all the Chadian factions put an end to the fratricidal war, the French Government worked behind the scenes, through its protege, to obtain the postponement of the meeting. The reason given at that time was that the FAN side had not finished preparing the documents for the meeting.

Furthermore, Francois Mitterrand's France, which loudly claims to be the mediator between East and West in Chad, in fact is trying to do everything to keep the fire of the Chadian conflict burning, and is in fact fanning the flames of East-West conflict.

The demonstrations organized in Ndjamena and the unfounded and unfair accusations by the Ndjamena butchers against revolutionary Socialist Ethiopia are concrete proof of this. For Western imperialists, there is no question of allowing the Ethiopian Government, which they find to be too (?radical), to carry out its role as the current OAU chairman and mediate in the Chadian affair. Already, it will be recalled, the Western imperialists did not spare any effort to prevent Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi — known for his revolutionary and internationalist stance — from taking over the chairmanship of the continental organization. Now the imperialist and reactionary propaganda (?blames) Mengistu Haile Mariam [words indistinct]. The puppet group, maintained by the French-American alliance and equipped with war materials [word indistinct] and furnished by Israel, continues to bark in the face of the great strides made by the Ethiopian revolution.

This demonstration, organized by the local representatives of the common enemies of a united Africa, is also a deliberate attempt to disparage the OAU. The shameful demonstration organized by the Ndjamena puppet group falls within the framework of the French-American directive aimed at sabotaging all diplomatic efforts by the OAU to peacefully settle the Chadian conflict.

RWANDA

Diplomatic Relations Established With Indonesia

EA250416 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] On 16 January, Rwanda and Indonesia agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

According to a communique issued in Kigali today by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, this agreement aims at promoting cooperation in all fields of common interest.

ZAIRE

Herzog Visit Sparks Off 'Hysterical' Arab Campaign

AB242150 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1010 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Commentary: "Stop the Blackmail"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 Jan (AZAP) — The official visit by the Israeli head of state to Zaire has sparked off a hysterical campaign by some Arab countries described as progressive. The target of this campaign is, of course, Zaire, which is accused by these fanatic extremists of signing a pact with what they see as the Zionist devil.

In this campaign, the Algerian Government newspaper *LE MOUDJAHID* made itself the spokesperson of the most bigoted circles which have continued to pour out their anger since the meeting between President Hayim Herzog and Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko.

Certainly, the virulent reaction of a portion of the Arab world does not come as a surprise in as much as it cannot be expected that this visit would gladden the hearts of all our partners even though the visit was within the framework of normal strengthening of Israeli-Zairian bilateral relations.

But to allow themselves to be led by blind fanaticism into an extreme verbal violence is something to make one quiver.

Short of rushing to the rescue of the Palestinians in the battlefields, they are now treating us to a show of noncommital solidarity and through which they are calling on the Arab world to wage a holy war against Zaire.

This is however not new. Already in May 1982, the "jihad" was in fact proclaimed with resounding vehemence following the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Kinshasa and Tel Aviv.

At the time the virulence of the Arab reaction, which was quite unusual in relations between nations, upset many African countries, even Islamic countries, for it exposed the anachronistic pretention, to say the least, of certain regimes to dictate the line of action to adopt in matters of foreign policy to Africans.

But in spite of these threats, or perhaps because of them, it is observed today that relations between Israel and Africa continue to grow. This explains why commercial exchanges between Israel and the African Continent have reached $100 million and why there are about 15,000 Israeli experts and technicians currently working in Africa. The terrorism practiced by certain countries, which however has not succeeded in discouraging the growth of relations between Israel and Africa, ultimately forces these relations to be clandestine, to the extent that tens of African delegations go regularly to Tel Aviv almost on the run as if a visa from Arab states was indispensable in transacting business with the State of Israel.

Under the penalty of finding oneself deprived of one's means of livelihood ... [sentence as received]

Zaire has said no to this inadmissible blackmail and to the arrogance of the "nouveaux riches" crammed with petrodollars. It also feels at ease because its relations with Israel do not prevent it from clearly expressing its position in favor of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Did Marshal Mobutu not restate solemnly again last Wednesday the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to create an independent sovereign state?

If these statements had been made by Ronald Reagan or any other Western leader, their authors would have no doubt been warmly congratulated by the Arab world, even though their countries have excellent relations with Israel.

Should it be understood by this that certain Arab countries deny African countries the right to have normal relations with Israel whereas they grant this very right to other nations?

Zaire, on its part, only wants to listen to the dictates of its conscience to decide in total liberty what is proper to do or otherwise in matters of foreign policy.

LIBERIA

Additional Reports on Visit by Israel's Herzog

Tour of Army Camp

LA241824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] President Hayim Herzog today visited the Liberian Army's main training camp, where President Samuel Doe arrested former cabinet members and other administration officials 4 years ago during the coup he led. These men were subsequently executed by firing squad. President Herzog's spokesman told reporters that he did not know anything about what had happened there, and Israel's ambassador to Liberia similarly was oblivious of everything.

Agreements Signed; Visit Ends

LA250738 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The talks between the Israeli experts who are accompanying the Israeli president in his trip in Africa and Liberian Government ministers yesterday afternoon yielded an agreement on Israeli aid in a number of spheres: the establishment of Liberia's national bank, road building, power system, and a memorandum of understanding on rice cultivation. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren is one of the journalists in the president's entourage.

[Begin recording] [Qoren] Israeli aid focuses on four subjects. The national bank of Liberia will be set up in Monrovia. The Israeli Water Planning Authority will build a 480-km road designed by an Italian company. An Israeli company will cooperate with the Liberian power corporation in developing Liberia's power system. Lastly, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Liberian agriculture and finance ministers and between Avraham (Burmert) and Asaf Yaguri from Israel for the establishment of a joint company which will help clear forests and develop the rice fields. President Herzog hinted at some of these plans in the course of a joint news conference he held with President Doe at the end of the visit to Monrovia. Why do you seek South African support while at the same time you condemn apartheid, the Israeli president was asked. We do not seek South African support; all that we ask for is cooperation, and there is no greater hypocrisy than to accuse us of this.

[Herzog — in English] On this question of relations with South Africa, I am very glad you asked me the question. This is a question, when directed to an Israeli, anybody representing Israel, which reflects the height of cynical hypocrisy which exists in the world today.

[Qoren] Our economic relations with South Africa, the president said, amount to 0.4 percent of its trade, in contrast with the other African countries who rely on South Africa for their economy while at the same time calling for boycotting it.

The president's visit to Africa has ended. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Buhari, U N Chief Discuss Economy, IMF Terms

AB241655 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has made an appeal to the IMF to review its terms and conditions for financial transactions with Nigeria. Making the call in Lagos today, Gen Buhari said that it was unrealistic to offer the same conditions to every country without considering differences in the circumstances and local realities. He was exchanging views at Dodan Barracks today with the UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, who is on a 3-day official visit to Nigeria. The head of state briefed the secretary general on efforts being made to resuscitate the nation's economy and restore the confidence of international financial institutions in Nigeria. Earlier both the Nigerian leader and the UN secretary general had endorsed the need for the IMF to be more realistic and flexible so as to help Nigeria out of her present economic predicament. The secretary general commended the efforts being made by the military administration to revamp the nation's economy. He expressed gratitude to the head of state for the warm reception accorded him.

Ambassador to U.S. Returns Home Per Directive

AB241220 Lagos NAN in English 1150 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] New York, Jan 24 (NAN) — Nigeria's ambassador to the U.S., Chief A.Y. Eke, left Washington on Sunday for home in compliance with a Federal Military Government directive that all political appointees should relinquish their posts by the end of this month. Chief Eke is the first political appointee from the Nigerian mission in the U.S. to comply with the directive. Others who have until next Tuesday to return home include the consul-general in charge of the Nigerian Consulate in New York, Dr Urian Angulu, the consul-general in charge of the Nigerian Consulate in San Francisco, Alhaji Mohammed Gamba, and the former permanent representative of Nigeria to the UN, Prof. Ishaya Audu.

Nigeria has five missions in the U.S., and apart from the consulate in Atlanta, Georgia, the four other missions are headed by political appointees.

In the absence of a substantive Nigerian ambassador to the U.S., the deputy head of mission at the Nigerian Embassy in Washington, Alhaji Mohammed Lamino, will act for the ambassador. Chief Eke was appointed Nigeria's ambassador to the U.S. in 1981.

Soldiers To Help Contain Looting at Lagos Ports

AB241800 Lagos NAN in English 1553 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 24 (NAN) — Soldiers were yesterday drafted to the Apapa and Tin Can Island ports in Lagos to help contain the looting that had been going on at the ports since the change of government.

A NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) correspondent who visited the ports premises today said that port users were subjected to a thorough search by the soldiers.

The commandant of the Apapa Port, Capt Kunle Fashola, told NAN that the soldiers and policemen have succeeded in reducing looting at the ports. He, however, said that pilfering by port touts was still going on, adding that the port security agents had introduced temporary ('measures) to reduce the activities of the touts.

The management of the Nigerian Ports Authority is meeting today with the officials of its workers union to take stock of goods stolen by looters, which a source estimated at more than 3 million naira.

Government, UK Yet To Agree on Trade Payments
AB241725 Lagos NAN in English 1645 GMT 24 Jan 84

[By Rowland Nwahukwu]

[Text] London, Jan 24 (NAN) — Nigerian and British negotiators are yet to agree on interest rates to be paid for re-financing Nigeria's arrears on trade payments, reliable sources at the talks in London said last night.

The talks, which began yesterday, are on re-financing a six billion dollars (about N4.5 billion) backlog of Nigeria's short-term trade debts. They are continuing in London today between a four-man Nigerian delegation and officials from the British Treasury and Trade Departments, as well as the British Export Credit Guarantee Department (ECOD).

Both sides expressed optimism that an agreement could be reached at a multilateral meeting of export credit agencies next month. A Nigerian official at yesterday's meeting described the talks as an informal exchange of views.

The talks were the first in a series of meetings with European export credit agencies at which the Nigerian delegation is seeking to reschedule, for over six years, the payments of the trade debts backlog, of which at least two billion dollars (about N1.5 billion) are insured by the agencies.

The Nigerian team, led by the permanent secretary in the Federal Ministry of Finance, Alhaji Abubakar Alhaji, is scheduled to leave for Paris tomorrow to continue negotiations with the French export credit agency.

Police Uncover Ex-Governor's Overseas Account
AB241753 Lagos NAN in English 1644 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Bauchi, Jan 24 (NAN) — A statement showing that 300,000 pounds sterling and one million dollars were deposited in ex-Governor Tatari Ali's account overseas has been discovered, the office of the secretary to the state military governor said yesterday.

According to a statement, the discovery followed a search conducted on the residence of the retired head of the Bauchi State civil service, Alhaji Shekaru Umar, where the properties of ex-Governor Tatari Ali are being kept. Also found in the house were 11 dollars, 55 Egyptian pounds, 21 Saudi rials, 5 Kenyan shillings, 100 Swiss francs, and 104 secret files on various subjects. In the governor's personal house in Azare, his hometown, 400 pounds sterling and 500 Saudi rials were found.

The search was conducted by a combined team of military personnel, the Nigerian Security Organisation and the police.

Main Border Post With Benin Remains Closed
AB242129 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1900 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The main border post between Benin and Nigeria was still closed today, in the early afternoon, in spite of the official announcement made yesterday on the opening of the Nigerian land-border posts.

According to a traveler who left the Nigerian capital this morning for Cotonou, but who had to return to Lagos in the afternoon after several hours of waiting, the Nigerian soldiers at the Seme border post on the Lagos-Cotonou-Lome-Accra road said they had received no instructions concerning the reopening.

Yesterday afternoon the Nigerian military government announced the immediate reopening of the land-border posts which, as you are aware, have been closed since the 31 December coup d'etat, a coup that overthrew Shehu Shagari's civilian administration.

SENEGAL

Composition of New PS Political Bureau Announced
AB232055 Paris AFP in French 0908 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Dakar, 23 Jan (AFP) — The new Political Bureau of the Socialist Party [PS] of Senegal, constituted on Sunday evening following an extraordinary congress of this party in Dakar, consists of 26 members as against 32 members of the former bureau (set up in December 1982 after the PS's 10th Ordinary Congress).

Thirteen personalities, essentially from the Socialist Party's "old guards," were dropped from the party's new bureau and 8 new persons (Jean Collin, Doudou Ndoye, Famara Ibrahima Sagna, Thierno Ba, Doumar Welle, Moussa Kante, Farama Mane, and Khalifa Sall) made their entry into it.

"PS" National Secretary	Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic of Senegal
National Secretary for International Relations	Habib Thiam

National Secretary and Chairman of the National Commission on Conflicts	Jean Collin
National Secretary in Charge of Political Life	Moustapha Niasse
National Secretary for:	
—Administrative Affairs	Doudou Ndoye
—Press	Abdel Kader Fall
—Cultural and Educational Activities	Daouda Sow
—Permanent Training	Francois Bob
—Party Finances	Abdoul Aziz
—Economic Affairs	Farama Ibrahima Sagna
—Social Affairs	Mamadou Diop
—Coordination With Socialist Women	Mamba Guitrassi
—Coordination With the National Confederation of Senegalese Workers (CNTS)	Samba Yella Diop
—Coordination With the Youth Movement of the Party	Momar Talla Cisse
—Mass Rallying and Mass Activities	Louis da Costa
—Propaganda	Thierno Ba
—Immigrants	Moussa Diallo
—Business Committees	Djibo Ka
—Relations With Party Representative	Oumar Welle
—Rural Promotion	Moussa Kante
—[position and name indistinct]	
Chairman of the National Movement of Party Women	Mrs Fatoumata Ka
—Secretary general of the CNTS	Madia Diop
—Secretary general of the Movement of the Party	Khalifa Sall
—Permanent Secretary	Mamadou Faye
—Member	Bara Diouf

'Arafat Continues Visit, Comments on Talks

Meets With Abdou Diouf

LD241326 Algiers APS in English 1014 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Dakar, 24/1/84 (APS) — Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee president, delcared yesterday that his trip to Dakar comes within the frame [as received] of fundamental relations between the Palestinian and the Senegalese peoples and their leaders.

Mr 'Arafat, who arrived yesterday in Dakar, was greeted by Mr Moustapha Niasse, state minister [title as received] in charge of foreign affairs. The PLO head had a first talk with President Abdou Diouf.

During this audience, the Senegalese head of state [word indistinct] Mr 'Arafat with his country's support to the Palestinian cause and pointed out that Senegal will continue to defend the Palestinian people's cause.

Pointing out the ties linking Senegal to PLO, Mr 'Arafat recalled that Senegal chaired the recent Geneva international conference on Palestine, that it ensures [as received] the presidency of the UN Committee of 23 on the Palestinian people's rights and it belongs to the commission of the eight nonaligned countries on Palestine.

Regarding new contacts of Israel with certain African countries, the PLO president noted that they are serious attempts of those which push Israel to become their agent in Africa to appropriate all the natural (?resources) of the continent.

By backing the Palestinian cause, the African countries protect indeed the whole of Africa, Mr 'Arafat pointed out.

Regarding the Jordano-Palestinian rapprochement, Mr 'Arafat considered the recent declarations of King Husayn as very positive and he recalled that in a resolutions adopted during his last meeting in Algiers, the Palestinian National Council declared for the setting up of a confederal relations to Jordan.

Asked about PLO relations with the USA and the USSR, Mr 'Arafat declared:

"If the U.S. Administration does not recognize the PLO, he will have the right to ask the USA" which has given the green light to Israel to strike Lebanon, under the pretext to restore the order in the region" [quotation marks as received] where is the order and stability in this region. With the USSR, the PLO has friendship relations, based on comprehension by this country of the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people, the Palestinian leader finally declared.

Diouf Pledges Country's Support

LD242143 Kuwait KUNA in English 1935 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Dakar, Jan 24 (KUNA) — The first round of the official Palestinian-Senegalese talks were to open here Tuesday afternoon following the arrival here last night of the (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on an official visit, the Palestinian news agency WAFA reported.

Shortly after his arrival here, the PLO delegation headed by 'Arafat paid a visit to Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, who welcomed Chairman 'Arafat, describing him as "a symbol of the struggle of the Palestinian just cause".

President Diouf stressed Senegal's Government, party, and people's support for the Palestinian cause.

He said that during its recent conference, the Senegalese Socialist Party declared its firm support for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He expressed confidence that the Palestinian-Senegalese talks will be of major importance at this stage of the Palestinian struggle.

After his short meeting with President Diouf, 'Arafat held a press conference also attended by the Senegalese foreign minister.

'Arafat initiated the conference by expressing his deep gratitude for the reception he received. "I would like to thank President Diouf for sending his personal jet to bring me here, to this brotherly and friendly country.

"The relations between Palestine and Senegal are deep and old and we are proud of it", 'Arafat added.

'Arafat referred to the results of the fourth Islamic summit conference and described them as important and positive.

"I consider these results as a strategic diversion to re-establish balance in the region in this critical period facing the Islamic and Arab world," 'Arafat said.

On the Palestinian-Jordanian relations, 'Arafat said: "I consider King Husayn's recent speech to the Jordanian Parliament a positive one because it clarified the importance of these relations which must be based on the resolutions of Fes and Rabat summits".

"I must recall the Palestine National Council's unanimous resolution which agreed on establishing a confederation between Jordan and Palestine", he pointed out.

'Arafat said that the Palestine National Council will be convened in the near future but did not give specific date.

'Arafat stated that the "PNC must take notice of the dissidents who participated in the Arab-Israeli double conspiracy against the Palestinian revolution in northern Lebanon". He added that the dissidents issue will be given top priority at the PNC's forthcoming session.

On the general situation in Lebanon and the region, 'Arafat said: "When they permitted Israel to strike against the PLO in order to achieve security and stability in the region, I have the right to ask where is this security and stability they claim to have achieved?"

'Arafat stressed that there is an ongoing attempt to push Israel towards playing the role of the international monopolies' agent, so that they become able of controlling once again the natural resources of the region.

'Arafat recalled statements made by Israel's terrorist, Ariel Sharon during the siege of Beirut when Sharon said "Israel has essential interests in the African Continent".

'Arafat further said that the importance of the role played "by our friends and brothers in Africa" is not merely for the protection of the Palestinian revolution but for the protection of Africa from this dirty conspiracy.

'Arafat stressed the importance of the Arab-African summit conference which should further strengthen the Arab-African relations.

On the relations of the PLO with the Soviet Union, 'Arafat said they are based on friendship and understanding since the Soviet Union has declared more than once its firm support for the just rights of the Palestinian people, these rights that have been approved by the international legitimacy through the United Nations.

U.S. Diplomatic Relations With Angola 'Promised'

PA241731 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1611 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Lisbon, 24 Jan (EFE) — The United States might soon recognize the Marxist Government of Luanda as a first step toward solving the conflict between Angola and South Africa, and, on another plane, the problem involving the Cuban troops, UNITA, and SWAPO, it was learned here today. According to the Portuguese news agency ANOP, this appears to be a tangible result of the secret meeting held by delegations from the United States, Angola, and South Africa on the island of San Vicente in Cape Verde from 19 to 22 January.

A Cuban delegation, led by the vice minister of foreign affairs, also traveled to Cape Verde to participate in the meeting.

According to ANOP, citing Cape Verdian sources, the U.S. delegation led by Frank Wisner, U.S. under secretary of state for African affairs, promised the Angolan authorities that diplomatic relations would soon be established. The same source added that another of Washington's concessions for the pacification of southern Africa would be to promote the neutralization of UNITA, which Luanda claims is supported by South Africa, and which carries out intense warlike activity in two-thirds of the former Portuguese colony's territory.

Dos Santos: Cape Verde Talks With U.S., Not RSA

AB251214 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, today inaugurated the second ordinary session of the People's National Assembly in Luanda. In his inaugural speech, the Angolan leader dismissed speculations that the Angolan officials made contact in Cape Verde with racist South Africa but confirmed the realization of talks between the Angolan Government and the United States authorities. President dos Santos said that the contact between Angola and the United States was aimed at an (?immediate) solution of the Namibian independence question in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978.

Meanwhile, the People's National Assembly will continue its session this afternoon in Luanda. The inaugural session of the People's National Assembly was also attended by members of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party and government, of the Central Committee, and ambassadors accredited to the People's Republic of Angola and [words indistinct].

ANGOLA

USSR Turns Over Vehicle Maintenance Center

MB250842 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] A center for the maintenance and repair of Soviet-made heavy and light vehicles situated in Viana, about 20 km from Luanda City, was yesterday given to the Angolan Government by Soviet authorities as part of the strengthening of cooperation between the People's Republic of Angola and the USSR. During the ceremony Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, the Angolan defense minister, and Gennadiy Zhuravlev, the first deputy foreign trade minister of the USSR, signed the cooperation protocol [words indistinct] the USSR for the handing to Angolan authorities of this major undertaking.

On the occasion, the first deputy foreign trade minister of the USSR emphasized that his country's government was willing to contribute to the further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries on the basis of mutual respect and help among peoples. (?The gesture shows) [word indistinct] of the Soviet people toward the Angolan people, two peoples who have always been united by [word indistinct] ties of fraternity, and whose cooperation is developing in various fields [words indistinct], Gennadiy Zhuravlev said.

In reply, the Angolan defense minister, addressing those present on behalf of the commander-in-chief of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, underlined the fruitful ties of friendship and cooperation between our country and the USSR. Comrade Pedale said that the newly inaugurated center would mainly serve the armed forces [word indistinct] of the battle readiness of the Angolan Army, which is presently concentrating all its skills in the field to eliminate the internal and external enemy.

The cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Angola did not begin today, the Angolan defense minister said. He said it was worth recalling that the Soviet party, state, and people have always rendered all the needed support to the Angolan people to fight colonialist occupation.

The newly inaugurated center of maintenance and repairs, the construction of which began in (?June) 1982, has, among other sections, a section of service and repairs, panel beating and painting, [words indistinct] and mechanic classes. The classes attended by Angolan mechanics began on 8 November 1983, and are conducted by Soviet teachers and technicians — experts in the composition, maintenance, and repair of Soviet-made vehicles, as well as experts in the [word indistinct] and maintenance of the [words indistinct] equipment of the center.

Meanwhile, with regard to the inauguration of this major facility, Arnold Kalinin, the Soviet ambassador to Angola, told ANGOP that the base for maintenance and repairs was another concrete proof of the development of relations between the two countries particularly now [words indistinct] between the leaderships of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the CPSU. It was also, Arnold Kalinin went on, the concrete result of the visit made to the USSR by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, during which various issues were discussed with Soviet authorities, including issues in the fields of defense and production.

The Soviet ambassador also told ANGOP that the inauguration of the center comes within the framework of the recent [words indistinct] between delegations from his country, Cuba, and Angola. We hope the center will give valuable assistance to the Angolan people, as well as strengthening the defense capacity of

the FAPLA, Arnold Kalinin said. To conclude, he expressed the readiness of the USSR to train Angolan authorities to head other [words indistinct] country may offer.

FAPLA Claims Successes Against UNITA in Benguela

AB232126 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Recently 24 armed UNITA bandits were killed and 4 captured by the FAPLA, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, combatants during some operations mounted in (Boukouyo), Balombo, (Chounggroui) areas in Benguela Province. The operations, which took place precisely between the 8th and 19th of this month, also resulted in the liberation of 87 civilians that the enemy was holding in captivity (?in the forest), the recovery of 101 head of cattle, in addition to the seizure of some PM-type mines.

Still in Benguela Province but this time in Mobolo village, the FAPLA killed 28 UNITA puppets when an enemy group tried to attack that village in order to murder the inhabitants there on 11 January. The group was routed. The defense and security organs in this province have, moreover, indicated that the outcome of the operations launched by our valiant combatants during the last quarter of 1983 rose to 250 killed and 7 captured among the [word indistinct] and resulted in the seizure of 41 rifles and 21 antitank weapons. In Huambo Province, a group of bandits who were trying to infiltrate a village in the Chikala-Solouanga Area were routed by FAPLA, which killed four of them.

Twenty-one other puppet soldiers suffered the same plight and one was captured in Cuanza Norte Province on another occasion when armed UNITA bandits tried to launch a bloody attack against the Lamba Loukala region.

MADAGASCAR

Ratsiraka Greets SDAR's Hakim, Discusses OAU Summit

MB241522 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Ibrahim Hakim, SDAR [Saharan Arab Democratic Republic] foreign minister and bearer of a message from SDAR President Mohammed Abdul Aziz, was received yesterday morning by President Didier Ratsiraka. The following is the statement by President Ratsiraka on the occasion:

[Begin recording] I am very happy to see you here. This is perfect timing, inasmuch as I like very much to be kept informed of the latest developments which concern me and concern us all, particularly before the OAU ministerial meeting at Addis Ababa, and how it will unfold, and before this summit meeting at Conakry. As regards Conakry, I learned from a Western press agency that Guinea accuses us of wanting to sabotage the Conakry summit conference. I do not know what information may have reached the hands of President Sekou Toure, but if there are any OAU saboteurs, I am not among them. [Words indistinct] have always supported the Moroccan colonialism cause. What I have said — and I have nothing to hide — is that we have confessed certain things and so have you, in particular [words indistinct]. But, as I have always said, we can compromise, we have gone as far as the [words indistinct] and we think that the summit conference at Conakry should not take place if the rest is not present to the last [words indistinct] of the OAU.

I have said and repeated at Addis Ababa that I had nothing to hide. It is nothing new for President Sekou Toure. Personally, we would not participate in the summit if the presence of Sahara were not accepted, for Morocco has not accepted the pertinent resolutions of the 19th summit at Addis Ababa, that is to say, direct dialogue between the parties concerned — Polisario of Sahara and Morocco — for the organization of a referendum free of any (?interference). Under these conditions, in my opinion certain things are clear — it is Morocco that does not want peace and the OAU, the chairman of OAU, must take a decisive and historic responsibility because it is on that responsibility that the future of OAU will depend. We will perhaps talk about this in a short while.

In any event, I thank President Mohammed Abdul Aziz for sending you here to possibly brief us on the latest developments of Sahara and for permitting us to exchange views [words indistinct] my highest and fraternal considerations. [end recording]

MOZAMBIQUE

27 Reported Killed in Attack on Bus By 'Bandits'

MB241925 Maputo Domestic Service In Portuguese 1700 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Twenty-seven people were murdered and about 20 others injured in a traffic attack launched by armed bandits against a Romos Express bus which regularly travels the route from Inhambane to Maputo. The attack occured at 0850 last Friday, 20 January, about 300 meters from the small village of Cumbana, which is almost 40 km from Inhambane, along National Highway No 1.

According to one of the survivors contacted by AIM the attack was carried out by two small groups of armed bandits who began firing at the tires of the bus, which rolled over on the same side as the doors. More than 60 panic-stricken passengers in the bus attempted to escape through the windows under intense fire from the murderers. It was at this point that most of the passengers were either murdered or wounded. One of the survivors, Januario Macujeca, told AIM that he saw bandits beating in cold blood children and women who had been shot in the heads. He also said that he saw between 18 to 20 people escaping unscathed, fleeing into the bush.

This action by the armed bandits is typical of the small groups of desperados who have been forced to operate in isolation after last year's military offensive. Their despair is increasing with the possibility that they may be abandoned by South Africa as a result of the talks with our government. A government source told AIM that the action of the armed bandits will not cease immediately, and it is necessary to step up military actions and the people's vigilance.

RSA Sub Reportedly Landed 'Bandits' in Inhambane

MB242006 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] A former member of the bandits has told AIM of how he met three members of the South African submarine crew in a bandit base in Inhambane Province. Alberto Vicente, who deserted from the Quizumba last May, said the submarine had come close to the coast bringing Mozambicans who had received terrorist training in South Africa and taking out others who were to receive similar instruction. Vicente said the Mozambicans, who were in uniform and armed with Kalashnikov machine guns and bazookas, came ashore from the submarine in small boats.

He said the three South Africans spoke in English and behaved like tourists, wearing swimming trunks and taking photographs. He said they spent 48 hours at the base, which was in Vilanculos District in the north of the province. Vicente said the newly arrived bandits were sent to the main Quizumba base at Tome, 150 kms inland. Tome was the bandit headquarters for all of southern Mozambique until it was destroyed by the Mozambican Armed Forces last August.

Vicente said he had been well treated since he surrendered to the armed forces and added that many of the other bandits wanted to desert but were afraid. President Samora Machel announced recently that bandits who surrendered with their weapons will be pardoned and reintegrated in society.

Tanzanian Ex-Minister Babu Assails Machel, Ethiopia

MB241028 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 0400 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The following is part of a statement by Abdul Babu, former Tanzanian government minister, that appears in a recent edition of *AFRICA NOW* magazine:

Ethiopia's Marxist-Leninist Government, Babu pointed out, has turned out to be the most cruel, repressive, and pro-imperialist of the leftist governments of Africa. Its so-called anti-imperialist stance is not consistent. Its ambitions for Eritrea are universally condemned. The so-called class struggle has led to the elimination of some of the best leaders of workers in Africa, especially leaders of trade unions and the youth movement. Its incorrect policy and economic strategy have not weakened but, rather, strengthened the counterrevolutionaries.

Mozambique's Marxism-Leninism does not fare any better. Its economic policy is so weak, adds Abdul Babu, that almost 10 years after independence the country is still dependant on South Africa.

Babu was a minister in Tanzania. He is a great friend and supporter of the movements for liberation in Africa, a friend of Frelimo, a friend of Samora Machel — a totally committed leftist. Babu, albeit a socialist, is clever and coherent in his socialist views. More than that, he points out the errors and the crimes which have been committed by many African governments under the name of socialism. He accuses many African governments of corruption and repression — be they socialist or not. He does all this even though he was an official of a leftist and socialist government in Tanzania — a country with a one-party system.

What Babu has said about our country has been widely reported throughout the world. It is important to note at this stage that it is a black socialist, leftist, and communist of the same school as Samora Machel who denounces, criticises, and warns about what is currently taking place in Mozambique. The falling reputation of Machel, the ill treatment which Mozambique and our people suffer at the hands of this government have even reached the ears of the friends of Frelimo.

The economic policy is so weak that even today Mozambique depends on South Africa. This is true; we have always said so. In reality Samora Machel is South Africa's friend, but he attacks South Africa often in speeches so as to hide the economic and other ties that are genuine life-savers for the government of Maputo.

Frelimo has imposed the death sentence, and has degraded itself further by making public shows out the executions. Yet worse than with the colonialist regime, now with Frelimo we are forced to see live, to read in the papers, or to hear from the radio the assassination and massacre of Mozambican brothers and compatriots. Where has one ever seen that? What feelings, what moral backbone do the Frelimo leaders have? What are the reasons for these public executions, so sad and sadist, which can only please fools, assassins and criminals?

Friends of the liberation of Mozambique are saddened by the turn that the country is taking. Babu is right, in fact. Samora Machel, with his criminal incorrect policy of misery, hunger, and bad economic management, has been discredited in the eyes of the world and of his old friends. It is with sadness and pity that the international community is witnessing the oppression and poverty which Mozambique and its people suffer.

Mozambique is a country which could be rich and whose people could lack for nothing. Frelimo has only managed to plunge the country into the hands of counterrevolutionaries. Here, too, Babu is right, although he calls us counterrevolutionaries since our present popular revolution is opposed to the so-called revolution of communist Frelimo. Babu is correct. More and more, Frelimo is losing its grip and control over the country. Each day that passes, Mozambique belongs more and more to its people.

Resistance Gives Results of 'Red Summer' Offensive

MB241628 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 0400 GMT 24 Jan 84

[War communique on "Red Summer" offensive from the headquarters of the Mozambique National Resistance General Staff — date and place not given]

[Text] In Sofala Province, on 21 December the Frelimo base at (Zuaradoga) in Cheringoma was attacked and destroyed by our combatants. In the attack 11 Machel regime's soldiers were

killed and 8 AK-47's were captured. On 22 December, the Frelimo barracks at (Mandume) in Marromeu was attacked, and in the action a number of military items were captured. On 1 January eight more high-tension pylons between the Revue hydroelectric center and Beira were destroyed. On 3 January our forces attacked the enemy military base at Guara-Guara in Buzi District. In the attack our glorious forces captured five 82-mm mortars and destroyed one Soviet built T-54 battle tank. In the attack our combatants also destroyed the local electricity generator plant which supplies power to the Buzi factory. In this area of Sofala Province and in areas surrounding Chemba, local residents are fleeing from village communes and handing themselves over to our forces after being interned by the criminal Frelimo forces in those strategic hamlets and slave-labor camps.

In Manica Province the Machel regime's murderous troops have been burning down the residences of the local people in (Massomae) and escalating their crimes against defenseless people.

In Inhambane Province on 1 January an enormous quantity of war equipment was captured when our heroic combatants attacked the enemy military base at (Cunguere) in (Chicovane), Vilanculos District. Ill-disciplined enemy forces fled from their barracks when they learned about the impending attack of our forces. The base commander and two other People's Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique soldiers were captured near the base while they were completely drunk after snatching locally brewed liquor from the local peasants.

In Maputo Province on 1 January our forces attacked and occupied the enemy base at Macaene, killing four ill-disciplined Frelimo soldiers. Large quantities of war equipment were captured and the most outstanding military equipment captured in the operation was an RPG-7, 3 RPD's, 23 SDP's, 18 AK-47's, 20 hand grenades, 4 signal pistols, 1 case of ammunition for LMG's, and a pair of binoculars.

Additional Battle Report

MB241734 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 0400 GMT 24 Jan 84

[War communique from the headquarters of the Mozambique National Resistance — date and place not given]

[Text] In Niassa Province on 10 January the glorious Mozambique National Resistance [MNR] forces attacked the Machel regime's criminal forces in the area of (Namirondi), where they liquidated four communist bandits. During the action our forces also captured five light weapons and various other types of war equipment.

In Nampula, on 3 December a military troop transport vehicle was ambushed and burned on the Muecate-(Quilimane) Road. A military bulldozer which was clearing a path for the ill-disciplined communist army was also destroyed and six of the Machel regime's ill-disciplined soldiers were killed during the action. The remaining Frelimo bandits fled in disarray, throwing away their weapons and equipment as they fled toward Imala. On 10 January our glorious combatants attacked the ill-disciplined communist soldiers at (Mapinge) in Corrane, forcing the Machel regime puppets to flee helter skelter to Mecua. The various types of war equipment captured by our forces includes one RPG-7.

In Zambezia Province, on 22 December the Maganja da Costa District Headquarters was taken by the popular combatants of the MNR. The People's Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM] communist criminals abandoned their base when our glorious forces advanced against them. Large quantities of war equipment were captured during this action. On 29 December, the enemy military base at (Cucaze) in the (Catangara) area was attacked by the valiant MNR guerrillas. In the action we sabotaged and completely destroyed the fuel depots which were supplying the Machel regime's barracks. On 12 January another heavy blow was dealt at the cowardly and ill-disciplined soldiers of the Machel regime when our combatants attacked and captured the enemy position at Cariua, seizing three AK-47's and many other military items which were abandoned at the base by its fleeing enemy occupants, who fled in disarray toward Maganja da Costa.

Crimes by the Machel regime in Zambezia Province: The residents in the (Aulo) timber factory area have been the target of crimes committed by a unit of 130 of the Machel regime's troops who are stationed in the area. The people of that area — about 35 km east of Mocuba district — are constant victims of robberies and assaults carried out by the criminal Frelimo soldiers. Machel's soldiers are, for all intents and purposes, cut off and without any logistical support and, as a result, they force the residents to give them foodstuffs every week for their survival. Whoever refuses to give such assistance is immediately executed by a firing squad, as the person is regarded as a guerrilla supporter. Besides these crimes, the residences of the people of that area have been burned down by the communist bandits who, despite already robbing the residents, have also been attacking and raping women. As a result of these waves of crimes which are committed by the Frelimo cowards and the Machel regime communist bandits, an ever increasing number of people are reaching our liberated and semi-liberated areas from (Aliuri), (Mocubene) and Maganja da Costa.

Tete, Zambezia Military Action

MB241904 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 0400 GMT 24 Jan 84

[War communique "just received" from the headquarters of the Mozambique National Resistance — date and place not given]

[Text] In Nampula Province, on 15 December, an enemy military vehicle moving along the Nampula-Mecuburi road detonated an antivehicle mine in the Namina area and was completely destroyed. In the explosion, four more elements of the Machel regime's criminal and ill-disciplined army were killed. On 23 December the glorious Mozambique National Resistance [MNR] forces also freed the people who had been interned at the village commune of (Mandiue) and Mecuburi. Every person who had been interned in that camp by the criminal communist bandits was released by our combatants. The Machel regime's

soldiers, who were guarding the village commune, fled helter-skelter from their position.

In Zambezia Province, on 30 December, the people who were being enslaved at (Namiope) village commune in Alto Ligonha were also freed. Our heroic combatants launched an effective attack on the Machel regime bandits who had abducted and interned the people in that strategic hamlet and freed all of the people of that area.

On 7 January the glorious MNR forces launched an attack against the Machel regime's bases at (Alto Benfica) and Derre, which were occupied by the People's Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique and by contingents of Zimbabwean forces, and captured the enemy positions. These enemy positions had served as forward posts of the Machel regime's troops in Morrumbala District. It was from those two camps that the criminals and bandits of the Machel regime's ill-disciplined army were committing their crimes and massacring the local residents of the operational areas in a bid to prevent the support that our forces were getting from the local people. In the two bases our forces captured large quantities of military equipment.

In Tete Province, on 9 January, our heroic combatants launched a major advance against the important Frelimo military base at Zobue township and captured it after attacking the ill-disciplined communist cowards and bandits who were at the base and forcing them to flee. All the barracks and installations of the Machel regime were destroyed and burned down. Our forces captured enormous quantities of war equipment in the attack.

NAMIBIA

Van Niekerk Leaves for Talks in Cape Town

MB250915 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0849 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Windhoek, Jan 25, SAPA — The administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, has left Windhoek for discussions in Cape Town with the South African Government, a spokesman for his office said today.

Dr van Niekerk is accompanied by the chief director of his office, Mr Sean Cleary. It was not know how long Dr van Niekerk would be in Cape Town, the spokesman said.

Multiparty Meeting Concerned by RSA-Angolan Conflict

MB250644 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Delegates of the multiparty conference on the future of South-West Africa have expressed concern in Windhoek at the continued failure on the part of South Africa and Angola to establish peace in the territory. In a statement published today, the conference said efforts to find peace should not be left to the warring factions alone.

The statement said the armed conflict generated its own momentum and the war in northern South-West Africa had already claimed the lives of hundreds of civilians. It said that more than half the people of the country did not know what normal living was anymore, because their social and productive activities had been seriously restricted.

The conference, which met in closed session, was attended by representatives of the Damara Council, the Rehoboth Liberation Front, the South-West African National Party, the South-West African National Union, SWAPO-Democrats, and the 11 member parties of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance.

SWANU Leader Responds to Conspiracy Allegations

MB241039 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 18 Jan 84 p 5

[Text] The multiparty conference resumes today and its struggle for success continues, says Mr Moses Katjiuongua, president of the South-West Africa National Union [SWANU], reacting to the latest political attack on him by dissidents in Botswana.

At the same time, Mr Katjiuongua declared that this is the last time he will react to the dissidents and their masters' allegations. "We must allow time to prove who is right, and who will emerge victorious from the struggle," he said.

The full statement reads as follows:

"The SWANU dissidents in Botswana are desperate elements seeking a platform from which to speak. They have no work and represent no one.

"The fact that up to now they have not succeeded in getting the required two-thirds of the party's branches behind them for the holding of an extraordinary congress of the party is sufficient proof that they have no support among party supporters to be able to carry out their impermissible deeds. Proof that they are immature political liars lies in the fact that that they have not been able to get a single piece of evidence of my alleged conspiracy with South Africa. They also could not provide evidence of my alleged deviation from party policy.

"Eloquence is no substitute for concrete facts," the statement continues.

"Long before my election as president with 45 votes, against 26 for Mr Gerson Veii, my predecessor, SWANU was holding talks with South Africa and with all the administrators-general to date. They even travelled to Pretoria. I have done nothing new. The only thing I have not yet done is travel to Pretoria at the expense of the South Africans. When it is necessary, I will negotiate with the South African Government, just as SWAPO is now trying to do.

"The dissidents who call themselves revolutionaries and who are preparing themselves for an armed struggle have so far not succeeded in firing a single shot at the South African police. There is a big difference between revolutionary action and revolutionary self-indulgence.

"On principle, SWANU's foreign representatives are appointed by the Central Committee in conjunction with party members in various other countries. They do not appoint themselves. In the same way, the holding of a national congress is decided by the Central Committee on the recommendation of the Political Bureau."

3 Die in Landmine Explosions Attributed to SWAPO

MB250652 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] It is reported from Windhoek that three people have been killed in SWAPO-laid landmine explosions. At least nine other people were seriously injured in the blasts.

A spokesman for the South-West Africa Territory Force said three civilians died and five others were seriously injured when their vehicle triggered a landmine near (Okolongo) on Friday last week. On Thursday last week three civilians were seriously injured in a landmine incident on a road about 16 km west of (Okongo). An Ovambo cattle herder was injured last Sunday after one of his cattle detonated a mine.

SOUTH AFRICA

Crocker To Meet With Pik Botha in Cape Town 27 Jan

MB250635 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, will hold talks in Cape Town on Friday with the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha.

Mr Botha last night confirmed earlier reports speculating on an imminent visit by Dr Crocker or other high-ranking American State Department officials to discuss the latest issues on South-West Africa and Angola, as well as South Africa's latest diplomatic contacts with Mozambique.

Our Washington correspondent has also reported that Dr Crocker will leave Washington today for a 2-week visit to South Africa, other countries in Africa, and Europe. His final travel plan has not yet been made public, but, it is expected that in southern Africa, apart from South Africa, Dr Crocker will also visit Tanzania, Zambia, and Mozambique.

In Cape Town last night, Mr Pik Botha did not want to say where he would be holding talks with Dr Crocker nor how long such meetings might last. He also did not indicate whether the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, would be directly involved in any of the talks.

Our political correspondent reports that it was almost certain Dr Crocker would receive first-hand information about South Africa's recent cross-border operations in Angola against SWAPO. Our political correspondent also reported that it could be expected that South Africa's cease-fire offer to SWAPO would be high on the agenda during the weekend's talks.

Mr Botha said that, as far as he was concerned, he would do everything in his power to explain the situation to the Americans.

Our political correspondent reported that Friday's meeting should be seen against the background of recent talks on the Cape Verde Islands between representatives of South Africa and Angola and later between representatives of Angola and the American deputy assistant for African affairs, Mr Frank Wisner.

Mr Wisner said in Lisbon that the United States and Angola had begun with sensitive deliberations on the future of southern Africa. He told newsmen after his discussions with Portuguese leaders that the United States would continue its negotiations with the Angolan Government. Mr Wisner would not comment or elaborate on reports that the United States was considering full diplomatic relations with Angola.

Officials of the Portuguese Department of Foreign Affairs in Lisbon said that the Portuguese Government had told the United states that American recognition of the Angolan Government would be a positive step in the search for peace in southern Africa. It's also reported from Lisbon that Mr Wisner yesterday held successive meetings with the Portuguese prime minister, Mr Mario Soares, and the Portuguese foreign minister, Mr Gama. Mr Gama is expected to stop over in the Angolan capital, Luanda, next month while on an official overseas visit.

SWAZILAND

UN Economic Assistance Team Concludes Talks

MB241824 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] A 4-man UN mission of economic assistance headed by Mr. M.K. Penadou, director in the office of the UN Commission for Namibia, today concluded talks with government officials headed by the principal secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Z.L. Mkhonta. In a communique issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UN mission was in persuance of the UN General Assembly's resolution, which called upon the international community to extend full support and assistance to the independent states in southern Africa, in order to enable them to reduce their economic dependence on South Africa.

During talks the two sides exchanged views on on-going efforts being made by the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland to increase self-sufficiency of the economy, particularly in agriculture, energy, transport, and manpower development. The two sides also reviewed strategies for economic diversification, and for close integration with the countries in the region within the framework of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference.

On their return to the UN Headquarters, the mission will submit a report to the United Nations containing recommendations regarding appropriate assistance which the international community could provide.

EEC Envoy Leaves for Maputo To Assess Drought

MB241834 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The EEC delegate to Swaziland, Mr Klaus van Heldorff, left the country today for Maputo, Mozambique, to join other EEC delegates based in the Mozambican capital, who are now on their tour of drought-affected areas. The EEC has contributed under the relief program about 5.6 million emalangeni, and the officials are believed to assess the commission's program, which started late last month.

Following an appeal by the Mozambican Government to the international community, the EEC commission sent a team made up of medical personnel, provided by the German Red Cross, with all necessary equipment, among them essential food and medicine.

ZAMBIA

Party Leader Meets Bulgarian Aid Delegation

MB220800 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The party secretary general, Mr Humphrey Mulemba, has said the party has placed great importance this year and in the years ahead on achieving an economic recovery through agriculture. He said that Bulgaria being a success story in this field, Zambia was confident that the Bulgarian help will bear fruit. The party chief was speaking yesterday when he met a Bulgarian delegation which later signed a party agreement with their Zambian counterparts for scholarships and technical cooperation in various fields at Freedom House. He said the Bulgarians will be particularly helpful in the nation's tobacco industry, in which they excel in their own country.

Mr Mulemba paid tribute to the Bulgarians for training two successful teams of district governors in agriculture, and now one group of ward chairmen in political and other related studies, saying this was a manifestation of the close ties between the two parties.

In reply, the leader of the Bulgarian team, Angel Bobokov, expressed satisfaction at the rate of progress on a state farm and a national service farm he and his delegation had visited, and said this showed the unlimited scope that existed in food production in Zambia.

The agreement was signed by chairman for the Political and Legal Committee, Mr Daniel Lisulo, for Zambia, and Mr Bobokov for his country. The ceremony was also witnessed by Rural Development Committee Chairman Reuben Kamanga, and the administrative secretary at Freedom House, (Rankin Sikasula), and other leaders.

ZIMBABWE

Mutare Councillors Resign; Commissioner Named

MB250712 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] All Mutare city councillors have resigned. Their resignation follows several days of demonstrations against the major, councillor Davidson Jahwi. The *HERALD* reports that a senior official in the Ministry of Local Government and Town Planning, Comrade (Charles Katito), has been appointed commissioner by the minister, Comrade Enos Chikowore. He will be overseeing municipal affairs until a new councillor is elected. The councillors who have resigned are all eligible to seek reelection.

New Rural Newspapers To Be Filled With 'Junk News'

MB250946 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] We note in a recent *HERALD* that the regime-owned Mass Media Trust is to establish a series of rural newspapers for distribution throughout the country. What a lovely move, if only because it increases sixfold the amount of free publicity that ZANU-PF is going to receive right across the country. No doubt from front to back the rags will be filled with junk news about all the beauties of the regime, complete with pictures of their fat, smug faces.

With the election due in about a year, it must be admitted, though, that this is a very smart move on the part of the regime, as it will allow it to intrude everywhere. There will not be one corner of this country where you will be able to buy a newspaper with any actual news in it, and can you imagine any of the other parties being mentioned free of charge, simply because they might have done or said something worthwhile?